

UMOJA ARTS NETWORK

England & Wales · Charity number 1185676

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2019-10-08

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

Contact

Address Community Action Network
Northmead House
30-32 Northmead Drive
Poole
Dorset
BH17 7RP

Phone 07899735050

Email hello.umojanetwork@gmail.com

Website www.umojaartsnetwork.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE PROMOTION OF EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT BY:(A) ADVANCING EDUCATION AND RAISING AWARENESS IN MULTICULTURAL ARTS CULTURE AND MUSIC;(B) PROMOTING ACTIVITIES TO FOSTER UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN AFRICAN CARIBBEAN PEOPLE IN BOURNEMOUTH, POOLE AND DORSET AND PEOPLE FROM OTHER BACKGROUNDS;(C) CULTIVATING A SENTIMENT IN FAVOUR OF EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE WIDER COMMUNITY.

Activities: provide community development support to people of african caribbean and other ethnic minority backgrounds. Provide information advice and guidance around local services that will help the community to maximise their potential for the common good

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Economic/community Development/employment, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Bournemouth
- Dorset
- Poole

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£0	£2,148	-	-
2024-03-31	£0	£1,821	-	-
2023-03-31	£2,220	£198	-	-
2022-03-31	£21,205	£18,986	-	-
2021-03-31	£8,428	£7,977	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ebi sosseh	Chair	2019-08-10
Louise Rhena Boston-Mammah		2023-07-27
Natasha Player		2018-08-05
Nigel Williams		2024-05-24
ebi sosseh		2024-05-23

UMOJA ARTS NETWORK

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Umoja Arts Network
charity number: 1185676

Trust Annual Report and Accounts

for the period 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025



Umoja Arts Network
Beech House
28-30 Wimborne road
Poole
BH15 2BU



Introduction

Umoja Arts network became a CIO in October 2019 but had existed since 2001. objectives are to promote African & Caribbean culture & enable community development through support initiatives. Our 2013 HLF-funded project 'Carnival Connexions' around the use of masquerade during carnival enabled us to organise the first procession in Bournemouth by commissioning & working with award winning carnival company Rampage & Arts University Bournemouth to design & make innovative contemporary costumes.

Delivered a school education & community outreach program & co-designed a touring arts & heritage exhibition with Development Education in Dorset (DEED). Over 9000 people saw & took part in the successful procession, static stage & outreach program In 2016, the Lottery funded 'Celebrate' project saw us embark on cross arts activities, such as heritage quizzes, black fashion show, film screenings, contemporary debates around ethnicity and culture and visual art exhibitions. Our trustees and volunteers have a long track record of running African Caribbean arts & community projects.

Structure Governance and Management

Umoja's structure is a CIO under the terms of the Charity Corporations Act 2006 and is controlled by its governing document, Umoja's constitution. The trustees monitor aspects of business, risk, finance and operational matters and engage within the local community with partners, stakeholders, local community assets and other African and Caribbean groups. The trustees are aware and follow public benefit guidance and requirements when making decisions and running our activity. Trustees also fulfil various organising committee day-to-day or ad-hoc roles that involve eg securing grant funding, planning organising and delivering projects and activities.

In recruiting new trustees, the charity endeavours to advertise vacancies through our network of community partners, local CVS or through informal contacts and networks.

Registered Charity number: 1185676

Registered Address: Beech House, 28-30 Wimborne Rd, Poole BH15 2BU

Trustees:

Nigel Williams
Natasha Player
Ebi Sosseh
Louise Boston-Mammah

Charitable Objects

To provide community development support to people of african caribbean and other ethnic minority backgrounds. Provide information advice and guidance around local services that will help the community to maximise their potential for the common good .

Achievements and Performance

Umoja has always prided itself as a deliverer of first class community projects and or networking opportunities, having a community presence, partnership working, listening to our community's needs and reacting accordingly. The last year has involved grant writing to ascertain needs from our communities and also to relaunch social and networking gatherings. We were successful in two bids. One from the Talbot Trust and the other from the Ethnic Diverse Communities fund administered by Community Action Dorset. Implementation of these projects started in August 2025 and November 2025 respectively and the impact will feature in our next annual report and accounts.

Notwithstanding, the trustees (due to skillsets) were able to operate and contribute in an advisory role to local ethnically diverse groups, such as the Nigerians and Gambians in Dorset, the Community Action Network (CAN) BCP in applying for funding to deliver capacity building support to groups.

Due to capacity, Umoja continued to delegate the flagship 'Africa Comes to Bournemouth' to other community practitioners to run and provided background advice and financial assistance and support. The event in June 2025 was very successful and attracted a footfall of nearly 5100 people to witness a showcase of African arts and culture.

Future

Umoja is in the process of incorporating two new trustees and also about to launch a business plan for 2024-2027 and have restarted the engagement with local partners to look at sustainable programmes and activities going forward including supporting the learning of local african languages and a world music festival in Bournemouth.

Section A: Receipts and Payments for the period 1st April 2024 to 31st Mar 2025

Receipts (Income)	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Total for year
Grants and Awards	-	-	
Membership fees	-	-	
Donations	-	-	
Fundraising	-	-	
Sales	-	-	
Miscellany	-	-	
Subtotal receipts	-	-	
Add balance from previous year	-	-	2,219.75
Total			2,219.75

Payments

Annual PLI Insurance		-	198
Africa Comes to Bournemouth support (artist sponsorship; equipment hire and advertising)			1950
Subtotal payments		-	2148.00
Total income minus expenditure		-	
Balance carried forward to the next year	71.75	-	

Section B: Statements of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Restricted	unrestricted	Total for year
Cash funds	Cash held at bank			- 71.75
Other monetary assets		-	-	- -
Investment assets		-	-	- -
Assets retained charity's own use		-	-	- -

Liabilities

-

-

-

-

-

-

-

-

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Delivered a school education & community outreach program & co-designed a touring arts & heritage exhibition with Development Education in Dorset (DEED). Over 9000 people saw & took part in the successful procession, static stage & outreach program In 2016, the Lottery funded 'Celebrate' project saw us embark on cross arts activities, such as heritage quizzes, black fashion show, film screenings, contemporary debates around ethnicity and culture and visual art exhibitions. We have successfully ran 'African Comes to Bournemouth' a weekend showcase of African Arts and culture for the last five years before handing it over to other community practitioners. Our trustees and volunteers have a long track record of running African Caribbean arts & community projects.

Structure Governance and Management

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Registered Charity number: 1185676

Registered Address: Beech House, 28-30 Wimborne Rd, Poole BH15 2BU

Trustees:

Nigel Williams
Natasha Player

Ebi Sosseh
Louise Boston-Mammah

Charitable Objects

To provide community development support to people of african caribbean and other ethnic minority backgrounds. Provide information advice and guidance around local services that will help the community to maximise their potential for the common good .

Achievements and Performance

Umoja has always prided itself as a deliverer of first class community projects and or networking opportunities, having a community presence, partnership working, listening to our community's needs and reacting accordingly. The last 12 months have continued to be challenging in regard to activities and has resulted in mainly community networking events, co created with other groups. This has been due to new trustees being embedded and the lack of voluntary sector in regard to capacity building and enabling our relaunch. We have had no new income come in due to the delay in view seeking exercises with the communities that we serve.

Notwithstanding, the trustees (due to skillsets) continue to operate and contribute in an advisorial role to local ethnically diverse groups, such as the Nigerians and Gambians in Dorset, the Community Action Network (CAN) BCP in applying for funding to deliver capacity building support to groups.

Umoja have played a role in an advisory capacity to the NHS, AFC Bournemouth and to Bournemouth University in helping them to diversify their engagement audiences. Umoja have successfully embedded new trustees into the charity and recently engaged with BCP's Ethnic Diverse Communities (EDC) project to develop its new business plan and is in the process of applying for funding with the arts council to organise a world music festival in Bournemouth for september 2025.

Future

Umoja is about to launch a business plan for 2024-2027 and have restarted the engagement with local partners to look at sustainable programmes and activities going forward including supporting the learning of local african languages and a world music festival in Bournemouth.

Section A: Receipts and Payments for the period 1st April 2023 to 31st Mar 2024

Receipts (Income)	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Total for year
Grants and Awards	-	-	
Membership fees	-	-	
Donations	-	-	
Fundraising	-	-	
Sales	-	-	
Miscellany	-	-	
Subtotal receipts	-	-	
Add balance from previous year	-	-	2,021.75
Total			2,021.75

Payments

Insurance		-	198
Networking events - venue			500
Networking events - refreshments			800
Networking Events- publicity			323
Subtotal payments			-
Total income minus expenditure	200.75	-	
Balance carried forward to the next year	200.75	-	

Section B: Statements of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Restricted	unrestricted	Total for year
Cash funds	Cash held at bank			- 200.75
Other monetary assets		-	-	- -

Investment assets	-	-	-	
Assets retained charity's own use	-	-	-	-
Liabilities	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-

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Registered Address: Beech House, 28-30 Wimborne Rd, Poole BH15 2BU

Trustees:

Gregory O'mallo
Natasha Player
Ebi Sosseh
Louise Boston-Mammah

Charitable Objects

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Achievements and Performance

Umoja has always prided itself as a deliverer of first class community projects and or networking opportunities, having a community presence, partnership working, listening to our community's needs and reacting accordingly. The last 18 months have been particularly challenging for the charity and has resulted in no activities. This has been due to trustees being unwell and other work commitments which impacted o applying for funding to run problems.

Notwithstanding, the trustees (due to skillsets) were able to operate and contribute in an advisory role to local ethnically diverse groups, such as the Nigerians and Gambians in Dorset, the Community Action Network (CAN) BCP in applying for funding to deliver capacity building support to groups.

Due to capacity, Umoja delegated the flagship 'Africa Comes to Bournemouth' to other community practitioners to run and provided background advice and support. The event was very successful and attracted a footfall of nearly 4000 people to witness a showcase of African arts and culture.

Future

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Section A: Receipts and Payments for the period 1st April 2022 to 31st Mar 2023

Receipts (Income)	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Total for year
Grants and Awards	-	-	
Membership fees	-	-	
Donations	-	-	
Fundraising	-	-	
Sales	-	-	
Miscellany	-	-	
Subtotal receipts	-	-	
Add balance from previous year	-	-	2,219.75
Total			2,219.75
Payments			
Insurance		-	198
Subtotal payments		-	198
Total income minus expenditure	2,021.75	-	
Balance carried forward to the next year	2,021.75	-	

Section B: Statements of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Restricted	unrestricted	Total for year
Cash funds	Cash held at bank			- 2,021.75
Other monetary assets		-	-	- -
Investment assets		-	-	- -
Assets retained charity's own use		-	-	- -
Liabilities		-	-	- -
		-	-	- -

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Umoja Arts Network
c/o The Link
3-5 Palmerston road
Bournemouth
BH1 4HN



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Registered Charity number: 1185676

Registered Address: the Link 3-5 Palmerston road Boscombe BH1 4HN

Trustees:

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Natasha Player
Ebi Sosseh

Charitable Objects

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Achievements and Performance

Umoja has always prided itself as a deliverer of first class community projects and or networking opportunities, having a community presence, partnership working, listening to our community's needs and reacting accordingly. See below our main activities for the period.

Africa Comes to Bournemouth- Showcase 2021

The weekend-long festival culminated in a two day event in the Triangle area of Bournemouth. There were African drumming workshops and performance, Spoken word, a Masquerade performance from The Gambia, Urban street dance, Street food stalls from Nigeria, Jamaica and a tropical juice bar inspired from The Gambia.

There were also crafts making workshops for children and young people, stalls selling artefacts, artwork as well as offering hair braiding. We also had musical performances from the Caribbean community, African fashion display as well as local DJs playing music of black origin.

Audiences were to experience multiculturalism both as a passers-by and participant due to the various planned workshops and performances. Our interactive activities were able enhance the feelings of community togetherness. People were able to integrate and have new cultural experiences. Local African Caribbean communities were able to enjoy their own heritage as well as share it with their networks.

The project has also helped to create a platform for supporting our local African Caribbean creatives to showcase their work. Furthermore the weekend has worked to foster better relationships between our communities and the wider populations especially amongst other ethnically diverse communities as well as help us reach new audiences due to the capture audiences of our locations.

Covid Relief Food Distribution part two 2021

Umoja received repeated funding from the Dorset community Foundation (DCF), to fund a food distribution projected to marginalised ethnic diverse communities within the Bournemouth Christchurch and Poole area. Food packages to the value of £30 were distributed to over 150 people as well around a hundred ready cooked meals.

The project has on a basic level continued to make a huge difference to people who were clearly struggling due to a sudden loss of income as a result of the pandemic. The people who largely received our support had little or no family support and very definitely not linked in with local support systems.

On an emotional wellbeing level, the project did also help to reduce some levels of stress and anxiety because of "people looking out for us". Some of the recipients were able to supplement their foodstuff as well as learn about other means of support in the community such as the food banks and the BCP council coordinated programs.

Future

Umoja is in the process of an overall review of its purpose as it has been getting hrder to attract trustees as well as core staff to keep the organisation going. Notwithstanding these challenges, we still plan to collaborate more with existing like-minded organisations to continue to promote African and Caribbean culture in the area.

Section A: Receipts and Payments for the period 1st April 2021 to 31st Mar 2022

Receipts (Income)	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Total for year
Grants and Awards	17430.75	-	17430.75
Membership fees	-	-	-
Donations	815.00	-	815.00
Fundraising	-	-	-
Sales	589.00	-	589.00
Miscellany	-	-	-
Subtotal receipts		-	
Add balance from previous year	450.22	-	450.22
Total	21,205.75	-	21,205.75
Payments			
Artist fees	10,200	-	10,200
Venue Hire (halls open spaces)	300	-	300
Publicity and Marketing (posters, flyers, banners)	1,450	-	1,450
Hire of Stage, Gazebo, PA	3000	-	3000
Transport and Storage costs	320	-	320
Project Overheads: 10% of total costs, project related - insurance, telephone, internet, stationary	1,097	-	1,097
Project coordination	2,100	-	2,100
Volunteer costs	420	-	420
Insurance	99	-	99
Subtotal payments	18,986	-	18,986
Total income minus expenditure	2,219.75	-	
Balance carried forward to the next	2,219.75	-	

year			
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Section B: Statements of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Restricted	unrestricted	Total for year
Cash funds	Cash held at bank	2,219.75	-	2,219.75
Other monetary assets	-	-	-	-
Investment assets	-	-	-	-
Assets retained charity's own use	-	-	-	-
Liabilities	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-

UMOJA ARTS NETWORK

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Umoja Arts Network
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for the period 8th October 2019 to 31st March 2021



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c/o The Link
3-5 Palmerston road
Bournemouth
BH1 4HN



Introduction

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Trustees:

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Charitable Objects

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Achievements and Performance

Umoja has always prided itself as a deliverer of first class community projects and or networking opportunities, having a community presence, partnership working, listening to our community's needs and reacting accordingly.

The end of 2019 and the beginning of 2020 initially saw us planning to organise an outdoor event call 'Africa Comes to Bournemouth' to showcase the array of african and caribbean cultural offers, but our plans were torpedoed by the onset of the pandemic and subsequent lockdowns, notwithstanding, we were still able to execute a series of community initiatives detailed below;

Covid Relief Food Distribution

funded by the Dorset community Foundation (DCF), Umoja Arts Network firstly conducted a survey to find out the food needs of the ethnically diverse communities at large and then purchased the food items that they identified before distributing to their homes. An additional part of the project also involved the preparation of ready cooked meals mainly aimed at those who were more challenged when it comes to cooking for themselves. once people identified what they wanted, whether it was mainly meat, fish or vegetarian related, our volunteers assisted in the shopping and distribution of such items. The network mainly distributed food in Bournemouth and Poole. 56% were of african and caribbean descent, 22 % of south asian origin, 12% of north african and or arab backgrounds, 6% from turkish backgrounds and there were 3 white british people who also received the food parcels.

The project has on a basic level made a huge difference to people who were clearly struggling due to a sudden loss of income as a result of the pandemic. The people who largely received our support had little or no family support and very definitely not linked in with local support systems.

on an emotional wellbeing level, the project did helped to reduce some levels of stress and anxiety because of "people looking out for us". Some of the recipients were able to supplement their foodstuff as well as learn about other means of support in the community such as the food banks and the BCP council coordinated programs.

Online Live Music Performances

Umoja Arts Networks enlisted the local african and caribbean artists who were not working during lockdown to perform online to our communities via social media. This provided employment as well as reduce the levels of social isolation being felt by our communities during lockdown. The events featured african drumming, dance workshops and a calypso and reggae performance.

'Black Men Talking' Networking Groups

Umoja Arts network held a series of six networking events (3 via zoom) as a way of connecting men together to share perspectives and initiate support systems with their

peers. The networking event were very useful in reducing isolation again and also for having conversations around vaccination-hesitancy.

Future

Even though our plans have been blighted by the pandemic, we plan to resume our project idea of having a showcase community event as soon as the lock-downs ease off.

Section A: Receipts and Payments for the period 8th October 2019 to 31st Mar 2021

Receipts (Income)	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Total for year
Grants and Awards	6740	-	6740
Membership fees	-	-	-
Donations	-	-	-
Fundraising	-	-	-
Sales	-	-	-
Miscellany	-	-	-
Subtotal receipts		-	
Add balance from previous year	1687.22	-	1687.22
Total	8427.22	-	8427.22
Payments			
Artist fees	800	-	800
Venue Hire (halls open spaces)	150	-	150
Publicity and Marketing (posters, flyers, banners)	350	-	350
Publicity and Marketing (design and Artwork)	192	-	192
Transport and Storage costs	256	-	256
Food items for covid relief project	4530	-	4530
Project coordination	1200	-	1200
Volunteer costs	400	-	400
Insurance	99	-	99
Subtotal payments	7977	-	7977
Total income minus expenditure	450.22	-	450.22
Balance carried forward to the next year	450.22	-	450.22

Section B: Statements of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Restricted	unrestricted	Total for year
Cash funds	Cash held at bank	450.22	-	450.22

Other monetary assets	-	-	-	-
Investment assets	-	-	-	-
Assets retained charity's own use	-	-	-	-
Liabilities	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-