

Umoja Arts Network  
charity number: 1185676

Trust Annual Report and Accounts

for the period 1st April 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024



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. 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**

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 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 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.

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 <sup>1st</sup> April 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> Mar 2024**

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

**Payments**

Insurance		-	198
Networking events - venue			500
Networking events - refreshments			800
Networking Events- publicity			323
<b>Subtotal payments</b>		-	
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**

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

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