GROUNDED COMMUNITY

England & Wales · Charity number 1187272

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2020-01-09
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	45 Maxwell Road Bournemouth Dorset BH9 1DQ
Phone	07771804980
Email	admin@groundedcommunity.co.uk
Website	www.groundedcommunity.co.uk

Activities

Objects: 1. To advance the education of the public in subjects of sustainable development and the protection, enhancement and rehabilitation of the environment by teaching, demonstrating and supporting people how to grow food to improve health and well-being. 2. The relief of those in need, by reason of age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage through the gathering, collection and distribution of food, the provision of support to grow food and the reduction of food waste.

Activities: To educate, share and grow, so we can reconnect members of our community with nature, with food and with each other.We want to work together to build an abundant, circular food system and a culture of storing, reusing and redistributing food surplus. To do this, we focus on four areas: education, community, access to food and environment.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Disability, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

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Geography

- Bournemouth
- Dorset
- Hampshire
- Poole

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£157,920	£144,788	-	-
2024-03-31	£145,680	£131,812	-	-
2023-03-31	£134,234	£115,429	-	-
2022-03-31	£52,944	£61,169	-	-
2021-05-31	£84,360	£60,206	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Mark William Stimson	Chair	2022-06-16
Eleanor Beatrice Wills		2024-11-14
Elizabeth Helen Gialias		2021-11-10
Joanna Ciuk		2025-07-10
John Hanson		2020-01-09
Mayu Rouco Santos		2025-07-10
Michael John French		2024-09-12
Theresa McManus		2024-03-20
john richards		2020-01-09

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GROUNDED COMMUNITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1187272

Accounts

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
From	01	04	2024	**To**	31	03	2025

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Grounded Community
Other names charity is known by	Grounded
Registered charity number (if any)	1187272
Charity's principal address	45 Maxwell Road
	Bournemouth
	Dorset
	Postcode BH9 1DQ

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
John Hanson	Chair	Until Jan 2025	N/A
John Richards			N/A
Helen Gialias			Trustees
Eleanor Wills		From 14/11/2024 onwards	Trustees
Michael French		From Sept 2024	Trustees
Mark Stimson	Chair	From Jan/Feb 2025	Trustees
Theresa McManus			Trustees

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
N/A	

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Jonathan Watson-Short, Karen Everett, Sharon Brinkman

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	CIO Foundation Model
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Every trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

Our charity's purposes as set out in the objects contained in the CIO Foundation Constitution are: -

1.To advance the education of the public in subjects of sustainable development and the protection, enhancement, and rehabilitation of the environment by teaching, demonstrating, and supporting people how to grow food to improve health and well-being.

2. The relief of those in need, by reason of age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage through the gathering, collection and distribution of food, the provision of support to grow food and the reduction of food waste.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Ensuring our work delivers our aims

We review our aims, objectives, and activities each year, held at a team Away Weekend at the end of January. This review looks at what we achieved and the outcomes of our work in the previous 12 months. The review looks at the success of each key activity and the benefits they have brought to those groups of people we are set up to help. The review also looks at our financial position for the next financial year including our budgets for each of our main activities. The review also helps us ensure our aim, objectives and activities remained focused on our stated purposes. We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aim and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

The focus of our work

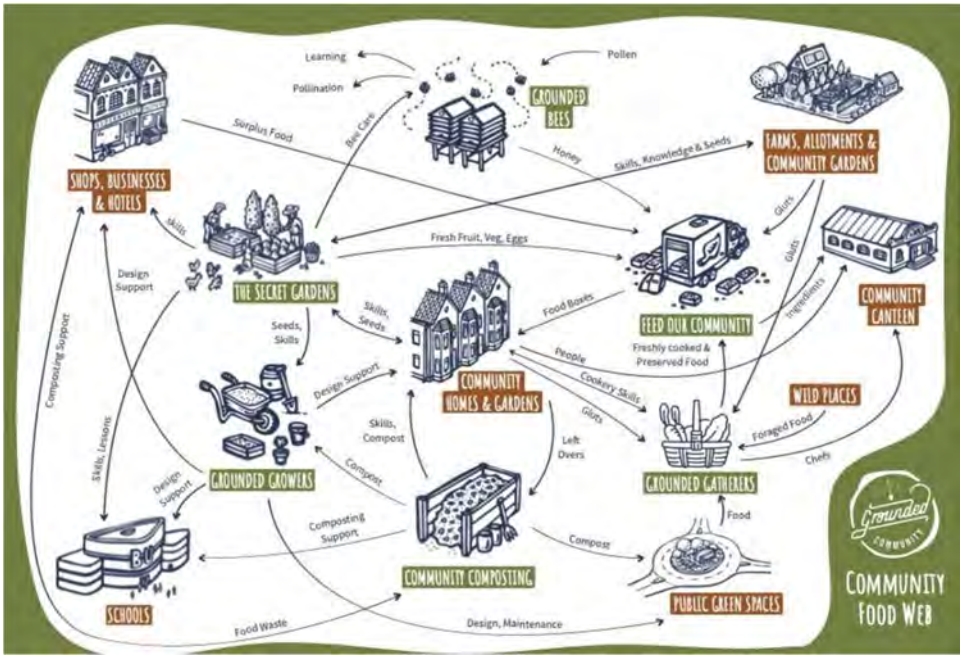
Our main objectives for the year continued to be the advancement of education related to teaching people food growing skills and distributing food to those in need.

The strategies we used to meet those objectives included:

- *Developing skill sharing workshops to educate our volunteers and the local community in learning about Food Growing Skills.*
- *Hosting volunteer sessions in our Secret Garden and other sites, including Little Gardeners.*

- *Helping people grow their own food by installing raised beds and helping to get them started.*
- *Collecting and distributing surplus food out to local beneficiaries through The Pantry, including supporting them in accessing warm meals in a comfortable setting.*
- *Establishing the Gatherers programme for cooking and preserving surplus or foraged produce for local beneficiaries.*
- *Collecting waste from the local community and turning the waste into compost to use by us.*
- *Developing our bee keeping workshops and mentoring programme.*
- *Trialling and growing microgreens to supplement the surplus food given out to local beneficiaries and raising the profile locally of this highly nutritious food through distributing to local businesses and farm outlets.*

Below you will read about the six projects (in green) that form our charity, including our pilot project(s). Our Community Food Map below shows how we are engaging our community partners (in orange) with our projects.



The Secret Garden:
Skills and Learning Workshops
The educational workshops mostly took place at the Secret Garden, but some workshops took place in the Nursery Garden and/or on the roof of the Sovereign Centre in Boscombe, Bournemouth.

From the workshops we aimed to equip people with the basic knowledge they needed to then grow their own fruit and vegetables at home, with the ultimate ambition of helping the community become self-sufficient, and to share their food within the local community. Our skills and learning programmes included one-off workshops to the public and ongoing volunteer training workshops, of which had been delivered during our weekday volunteer sessions.

The workshops generally start with an introduction to the theory, followed by a practical session in which participants get an opportunity to practise their

new skills. After the practical sessions, there is always a Q&A session with suggested home activities and resources to follow up what the participants have been learned about. There is usually something to take home – a detailed handout, seeds, plug plants or harvested food.

Our fortnightly advanced volunteer training sessions go into further depth on seasonal topics to share skills and support growing at the Secret Garden. Topics this year included mushroom growing, rainwater harvesting, making nettle soup, companion planting, composting and the Summer Solstice.

Volunteer sessions
Our garden volunteer sessions have continued to run throughout the whole year on Monday and Friday mornings from 9am to 1pm.

These volunteer sessions at The Secret Garden have provided several key services for our local community:

- Growing local, nutritious, seasonal, chemical-free food to give out to those in need, through our food distribution project – Feed our Community - The Pantry.

- Demonstrating simple, regenerative techniques for growing a wide variety of crops that can be replicated in back gardens.

- Providing the skills needed for our local community to grow their own food and everything that supports this (e.g. composting, wildlife gardening, beekeeping).

- Nurturing a local community of people who come to learn and share their own skills and experience.

Monday and Friday sessions have continued to be inclusive and open to all. The sessions attract people with a range of ages, abilities, nationalities, backgrounds, beliefs and life circumstances, representative of our diverse area. Garden activities vary with the season and are catered to the interests, skills and ability of our volunteers. The activities have included sowing, weeding, planting, harvesting, watering, seed saving, chicken care as well as DIY, creating wildlife habitats, composting, painting and developing new growing spaces. As mentioned above, we also held advanced volunteer skills training session twice a month. As well as helping our volunteers develop new skills, these sessions have greatly contributed to the volunteers physical and mental health. At these sessions there is always time for a hot drink and chat, usually with cakes and snacks contributed by our volunteers or staff.

Little Gardeners Stay & Play Sessions
During term time we have continued to run a nature play group for under 7s and their adult carers. In these weekly 90-minute sessions, children have taken part in a variety of play-based activities based connecting the children with the outdoors, soil, plant and wildlife and growing organic, seasonal food and conserving wildlife habitats. The nature play group activities have included pond-dipping, plant and bug identification, making insect habitats,

feeding the chickens, craft activities, play-kitchens and reading books related to nature and food growing. As like with the volunteer sessions, there is always hot/cold drinks and healthy snacks available for adults and children.



Parents often comment on the calm, playful and friendly atmosphere. New friendships and connections are formed, and we have families signing up to our projects as a result of coming to the Little Gardeners play sessions.

As well as the activities that are laid out, all children and adults are encouraged to freely explore and enjoy our beautiful walled Secret Garden, complete with a sheltered outdoor classroom/kitchen area, wildlife pond, chicken run and polytunnel.

The aim of the sessions has always been to initiate a positive lifelong connection with the outdoors, soil, plant life, chickens, wildlife and where our food comes from, to learn through play and to respect and take care of each other and our planet.

The Little Gardeners sessions run every week in all weather conditions (apart from dangerously high winds and thunderstorms!). Our measurable outcomes are that 90% of adult attendees report that a) their children are more comfortable playing outside in nature, and b) are more familiar with where their food comes from, as a result of attending our Little Gardeners sessions.

Grounded Growers:
Our Grounded Growers project provides design and installation services to create bespoke growing spaces throughout our local community. Their services include the supply, delivery and installation of reclaimed timber frames, a waste product of the shipping industry along with locally sourced soil and compost, created from collected green and local food waste. Our Growers project also provide seasonal organic seeds and plug plants and with their outreach support, help individuals, groups and organisations to learn how to grow their own nutritious food with access and connection to a range of grower's skills workshops within our Secret Garden or within the setting of the new installation. Our Grounded Growers project has volunteers often young men and some form refugee asylum seeking community.

Feed Our Community – The Pantry:

Established in 2017 as a community fridge, this project merged with Grounded in 2020 to become 'Feed our community' and is our surplus supermarket food collection and distribution project. The project collects surplus food from supermarkets, cafes, home growers and allotments.

In 2024 we intercepted and redistributed 60,000 kgs of supermarket surplus and each week we are feeding over 100 individual households and providing 75 additional people with emergency food. Annually, since the spring of 2024 and to meet increased demand, our service is now open seven days per week.

The challenges in this financial year have been the continued drop in food donations, reduced volunteer availability as volunteers have needed to seek paid employment, together with the rising cost of living impacting on both volunteers and beneficiaries. Additionally, we have noticed our beneficiaries are not accepting fresh produce as they do not have the practical/financial means to cook or the necessary skills/knowledge to know how to cook with fresh ingredients.

In September 2024 we undertook some research and listened to what our community needed and with the support of some funding, we undertook a full refurbishment of our feed our community space which included the newly refurbished and named 'The Pantry'. This new model is an open 'farm shop' style area where rather that come and collect a pre-prepared food box, the beneficiaries are encouraged to take a basket and browse the shop to select the items they need.

Examples of those people that benefit from 'The Pantry' are vulnerable individuals, single parent families, elderly, large families, those with mental health issues and/or substance abuse and low-income households. Many of the volunteers are also beneficiaries and our project team encourages everyone who can to get involved, building a more confident and resilient community.

Grounded Gatherers:
The aim of Grounded Gatherers has always been to put surplus food to good use – whether it's unwanted fruit from gardens, foraged fruits from public spaces or even supermarket veg that needs using fast. Our Gatherers come together to create a whole range of seasonal delicacies such as nettle soup, rosehip syrup & three-cornered leek pesto as well as producing a variety of soups, juices, cakes, bakes and makes from food that would otherwise end up in landfill.

Community Composting:
We transform food waste from local businesses into nutritious compost, using our rocket composter on the roof of the Sovereign Centre in Boscombe.
In the early part of the year, the rocket composter was not operational for a while due to a technical problem. Once resolved, it was back up and running on the Sovereign Centre rooftop, turning food waste into high quality compost for community growing.

Grounded Bees:
We keep beehives on the roof of the Sovereign Shopping Centre. We also keep a beehive at our Secret Garden 2 for educational purposes.

It was a busy educational year for our bees, volunteers and attendees. We exceeded our delivery plan target and grew our own stock of beehives from 4 at the start of the season to a total of 10 colonies going into the winter. Over the summer season, our bee project saw great success with the running of 'Busy Little Bee-Keeper' experience days for children aged 3 to 11. We ran six sessions with 52 children and 37 adults. The children learned about beekeeping, saw the hive and honeybees at work. We also ran beeswax crafting, an introductory beekeeping workshop, as well as two adult bee keeping experiences attended by 25 adults.

Staffing Challenges for the year: 2024/2025

As a charity we have grown considerably. Although we are still operating all our projects on four full-time equivalent days, we increased our outputs considerably. We increased the staff team to 9 and 2 contractual staff.

In May 2024, our Treasurer resigned as Trustee and Treasurer with immediate effect. The resignation led to delays in financial operations, difficulties in accessing and maintaining the financial information on Sharepoint, and also created issues with accessing funds and making payments until we were able to change all passwords and signatories. In June 2024 we eventually recruited on a recommendation an Interim Finance Accountant who assisted us in moving our financial systems over to Zero, of which we have now accomplished.

At the start of the summer period in July 2024, our Impact Reporting Coordinator suddenly left, and this was not picked up again until September 2024, so we lost valuable impact data across the charity. The good news is that we now have a new trustee who specialises in impact reporting, and we are pleased to say we have moved forward in this area.

In September 2024, our lead Feed our Community Coordinator resigned from the project. Again, this came as a complete surprise to staff and trustees. This was at the same time as the refurbishment of the community space. Our assistant Feed our Community Coordinator immediately stepped up, and she has been amazing for the project – her energy, commitment and dedication has shone through. To fill the staffing gaps created by the lead Feed our Community Coordinator, we recruited a new Volunteer Coordinator for 'The Pantry' and a Drivers/Pick-up Coordinator.

At the beginning of December 2024, our Social-media and Communications Coordinator became ill and had to take some time away from the projects. Her role had always been to promote and increase our Friends of Grounded, planning and preparing for a crowdfunder campaign and promoting us through public communications and networking events.

Lots of staffing challenges but we overcame them – together we can grow.

Section D Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year	Brief Introduction to Summary We had another successful year in 2024/25 in running our charity – we have seen an increase in volunteer engagement with the involvement of some amazing skilled and diverse people who have been dedicated to our cause and the environments we create. We also connected with more agencies from GP and partner referrals, and we attracted more beneficiaries that are dependent on our services. Our local presence has certainly been hugely significant in supporting our local community during these challenging and ever-changing times. Summary of the Main Achievements for the year 2024/2025 In this section of the report, we would like to share with you a summary of our main achievements in 2024/2025. Let's start with the training and development opportunity that was given to some of our staff and volunteers to gain a Level 1 and Level 2 in Practical Horticulture, now accredited by City and Guilds. The course was facilitated by BCHA Learn and held at the Secret Garden and BCHA's own New Leaf Allotment. The course combined practical activities with learning the theory behind horticulture techniques. Everyone who attended the course enjoyed learning and connecting with other people, and most importantly enjoyed being out in nature in the Garden and learning new skills. The course was successfully completed by all attendees. The Level 1 course is suitable for learners who are new to the sector as it provides knowledge of preparing soil, applying organic mulch, pruning, houseplant care and the skills demanded by horticultural practice. The Level 2 course builds on the existing skills developed at Level 1.



In Spring, we focused our DIY team on the building of a new hen house for our beautiful, feathered friends. Our existing small flock of ex-commercial laying hens, adopted through the British Hen Welfare Trust are a friendly, productive, and educational feature of the Secret Garden, loved by volunteers, visitors, and children alike. Their old coop was over 8 years old, leaky, with a potential for invasion by pests and predators.

Our fantastic new coop was built by 44 volunteers over multiple sessions with donations received from Organix Baby Food, Skipton Building Society, our Chair of Trustee's - London marathon run, and the 26th Bournemouth Cubs, with building materials donated by Elliotts Builders Merchants, Christchurch. It included improved nesting boxes, roosting perches, accessibility and included a new living roof.

During the same period, our Grounded Growers Coordinator attended the Spring Fair at the Craigleith Housing Development in Boscombe, where she met the Housing Manager for Sandbourne Housing Association.

The residents of the Housing Association wanted to start a Gardening Club but did not know where to start and had nowhere to grow anything at an accessible height. With the help of our volunteer and our newly appointed Growers Installation Coordinator, three raised beds with benches were installed in their communal garden. Everyone worked together to organise a minibus trip, with the residents visiting the Secret Garden for a VIP tour aimed to motivate, engage and connect the residents.

Our Grounded Growers Coordinator then returned to hold further growing sessions, which have been well attended and great fun. Residents participate in sowing, propagating, thinning out, cropping and weeding their new raised beds.

For Easter 2024, we held our Good Friday Gathering, of which was a wonderful day and our biggest Easter gathering yet! We welcomed over 70 adults and 30 children to enjoy freshly made pizzas, making new like-minded connections, whilst children were busy hunting for Easter eggs.

Our Gatherers made a colourful spicy vegetable soup to put in food boxes with surplus food from Feed our Community. It was gratefully received by people who were outside as the van pulled up to store it, and so the people received the food whilst it was warm. Gatherers also prepared tasty banana bread and honey cake for the Amnesty International Fair that was taking place that same evening.

At the end of April 2024, Chaplin's launched their new Belgian Blonde Ale home brew. Our Bee'z Project Coordinator provided the delicious honey sweetener for their brew, and we received the spent grains for our composting project on the roof of the Sovereign Centre.

During May 2024, in recognition of Mental Health Awareness Week, our Home Growers Coordinator teamed up with The Parks Foundation and BCP Council, to deliver a sowing and planting workshop at Henry Brown Community Centre for the wonderful West Howe Community Enterprises.

To highlight the importance of getting outside and meeting friends, the keen group of 10 from the Henry Brown Men's Shed group, planted up a great selection of donated veggie plug plants in their new raised beds installed by our Growers team last year. New ideas were also sown, alongside the salad crops, inspiring the local community with new confidence and even an offer to build frames for accessible raised beds for home growers! The fabulous team at the community centre then ran a fresh and healthy food prep session inside, to complete the seed to plate cycle.

In June 2004, we marked World Localization Day - an annual celebration to highlight the many efforts and initiatives that foster ecological economies,

thriving communities and healthy local food systems. This event was free and open to everyone including our volunteers, supporters, and corporate sponsors. The event was a great success.

In July 2024, our founder relinquished his paid role with Grounded and became a Trustee from September 2024. The duties that our founder was undertaking were then divided between four of our existing team members who now have formed our Core Operations Circle supporting the wider core needs of the charity.

Also in July 2024, our Grounded Growers Installation team installed a total of 14 vegetable beds, five fruit beds and three ornamental beds. By adding the raised beds for the customer, her available growing space was hugely increased, and the quality of the soil was improved, of which meant that the soil was deep enough for her to plant her favourite Acer trees, of which needed more space in which to flourish.

September 2024 proved to be a busy month…. We made modifications to improve access and useability for wheelchair users at the Secret Garden and those with mobility issues. We upgraded access ramps, installed height varied raised beds and upgraded our compost toilet.

We also held our Harvest Festival and welcomed over 120 visitors. Our local families enjoyed taking part in the pressing of 40 litres of delicious apple juice, which was enjoyed on the day and bottled for the generous donors too.



Also in September, our then Feed our Community project closed for one week for a refurbishment following a move from the community centre at the back of St George's Church to what was previously the Church entrance hall. The team had spent months researching the benefits of a "social supermarket" concept, as an alternative means to re-distribute surplus food via food boxes.

The refurbishment enabled us to offer a much better service of a "weekly shop" to our beneficiaries, instead of handing them a food box they are now able to come into the space and browse the shelves and have a more normal shopping experience which provides them with choices, dignity and respect, they are always assisted and supported by 3 or 4 volunteers on standby.

This new social supermarket set-up not only empowered members of our local community to choose which items they personally need but also cut out the lengthy preparation of food boxes by our volunteers before our doors open from 11am each day.

Throughout the refurbishment we had several joyful volunteers, including recipients of food boxes, who stepped up to help us create this brand-new space. Demonstrating the power of community support, we moved out old and impractical chest fridges, painted the walls, and moved two brand new glass fronted fridges, thanks to generous funding from the BCP Foods and Energy Fund.

When we re-opened our doors, now known as 'The Pantry', we were greeted with so many happy faces and positive comments. Everyone enjoyed being welcomed to the beautiful new layout and our volunteers were able to relax and chat, as they browsed the shelves and fridges to select their 10 items per household.

Our improved 'The Pantry' model has allowed us to redress the power balance by bringing people together, promoting community cohesion and building resilience, it is giving people more autonomy over their food choices and gives us more opportunity to engage with people and offer suggestions on how to use different produce, plan meals and help with budgeting.



On one Thursday evening in September, we had the great pleasure of joining a gathering to celebrate the passion and commitment of volunteers across BCP, hosted by Access to Food Partnership and The Parks Foundation. Many charitable organisations across the conurbation were recognised for their work in supporting local communities with access to food during these challenging times, of which Grounded was one of the organisations. All our volunteers thoroughly enjoyed celebrating together and hearing about other local projects.

And finally in September, some members of the team attended a two-day workshop – Asset Based Community Development, as suggested by Kirsty Main. ABCD is an approach to sustainable community-driven development. It is concerned with how to link micro assets to the macro-environment. ABCD's premise is that communities can drive the development process themselves by identifying and mobilising existing but often unrecognised assets. Thereby responding to challenges and creating local social improvement and economic development. The course was extremely encouraging and uplifting as it demonstrated how you can utilise your community and develop them in ways they did not think possible. It was also helpful to meet other like-minded people from similar organisations and link in with them for future networks.

In October 2024, our Grounded Gatherers team thoroughly enjoyed a two-light workshop at the Secret Garden recently learning how to grow and craft new recipes with mushrooms. Much learning and laughter was had by all.



One of our new growing projects to evolve in 2024 was Microgreens. Initially piloted between 2022-23 by our volunteer team, we spent much time researching the product and perfecting our production methods. We recognised that to take the pilot forward we needed to appoint a paid facilitator to bring it to life and so in October 2024 and thanks to a mixture of capital and core funding, our project launched. We also partnered with the Sovereign Centre in Boscombe to use their shopping centre balconies as a growing space. Our aims are to use the project as a source of income for the charity; make it available to low-income families through our community pantry; provide cookery and demonstration workshops to raise the profile locally of this highly nutritious food; teach people how to grow microgreens using organic and sustainable techniques.

At the beginning of November 2024, our founder and now Trustee, spoke at the Dorset COP 2024 event taking place at Bournemouth University– his session was part of a group cooperative, presenting talks and break out workshops to focus on Food Governance and Strategy and “The Power of Good Food Partnerships across Dorset”.

In November 2024 we were thrilled to receive The King’s Award for Voluntary Service. This is the highest award any voluntary group can receive in the UK and is equivalent to an MBE.



John Hanson, our Chair of Trustees said: “It’s an honour that our efforts have been recognised, working with our community to give everyone access to healthy and nutritious food. It’s a testimony to the passion and commitment of our volunteers, who work so hard to achieve this mission together.” Grounded Community is one of 281 proud local charities, social enterprises and voluntary groups to receive this prestigious award this year. The King’s Award for Voluntary Service aims to recognise outstanding work by local volunteer groups to support their communities. The Award was created in 2002 to celebrate Her Majesty The late Queen’s Golden Jubilee and, was continued following the accession of His Majesty The King. 2024 marks the second year of The Kings Award for Voluntary Service and recipients are announced annually on 14th November, The Kings Birthday.

In December, our Gatherers project team gathered to carefully pack 75 Christmas bags ready to be given out to our beneficiaries. In this bag of presents was a thermos and a reusable cup as well as other goodies.

In January 2025 we held our Annual Away Weekend in Studland for staff and some volunteers, of which was attended well by all. The weekend focused on Inputs, Outputs, Outcomes and Impact. A presentation was given by Jono on how to a) recognise the difference between outputs, outcomes and impact, b) to know which Output data to record and where to store it, c) to agree upon a plan for collecting outcome data, and d) to start updating outcome indicators for each project. As a result of his presentation, we agreed as a team to update, monitor and continually review the Delivery Plan, run the Annual Survey in February 2025 and embed collecting and reporting into our work. Our trustee, Ellie, has been given the role of Impact Coordinator so she can ensure we do record our impact. Since the Away Weekend our Project Coordinators have further explored the recording and monitoring of our Outcomes and Impact.

At the beginning of February 2025, we opened The Pantry Kitchenette. This is an extension of The Pantry where we now provide a warm and welcoming takeaway service where our beneficiaries can now get a hot drink or soup, or a pastry. All the beneficiaries have to do is bring with a thermos or mug, and it will get filled up with something comforting – coffee, tea, herbal blends, or even a cuppa soup, or fresh soup made by a team of Gatherers.

On 8th February 2025, Chaplin's & Cellar Bar hosted an 'Increase The Peace festival' – an all-day fundraiser in support of Grounded Community and raised an incredible one thousand pounds. This just shows the power of togetherness and generosity. Every penny of the donations raised were invested into our six projects.

In March 2025 we received funding to expand our workshop programme in line with our mission. The funding enabled two of our skilled facilitators to deliver our 'Home and Community Herbalist' workshop and to also deliver our Mindful Photography workshop. Our targeted outreach included engagement with our community partners; International Care Network and the Dignity Centre supporting asylum seekers and refugees; via the Access to Wellbeing Hub reaching people requiring support with mental health and emotional wellbeing, Help and Care who particularly focus on supporting independence for people in later life.

The workshops empowered people to make choices to improve health and wellbeing, reduce feelings of isolation, improve English and literacy, support people to feel connected and have a strong sense of belonging, address feelings of isolation and breaking down barriers in accessing community services.

Last but not at all least, we are proud of our volunteers and our community, and all we have been able to achieve with their support and commitment. We currently have over 200 active volunteers that's work for our charity. At its core, volunteering is a selfless gesture, we believe that 'together we can grow' and without doubt, our charity would not be where it is today without our volunteer family. We are continually humbled by the love, passion and time invested by our amazing volunteers, from all age groups with incredible diversity. Our volunteers are creative and bring new opinions, ideas and approaches to our work and they help us stay connected to our community, supporting us to adapt and stay relevant. They are welcoming, patient, and

compassionate in supporting each other and nurturing new friendships and connections. They demonstrate incredible patience, understanding and resilience as we navigate change while, in many cases facing their own challenges, they are passionate about our cause and share our mission with everyone they know; they demonstrate incredible teamwork taking on both the leader and the follower role at different times and frequently going above and beyond their role to achieve a common goal.

As a volunteer led charity, our Volunteer Coordinator has played a crucial role in the attraction, retention, care and nurturing of our 200 active volunteers; ensuring long-term sustainability and growth and providing the best support possible for the people that are key to our survival.

Our Volunteer Coordinator has personally engaged with every volunteer that joins us, making them a part of the charity from day one. She has facilitated monthly wellbeing and drop-in surgeries for volunteers and has identified and trained volunteers to up skill them to take on more responsibilities as facilitators. Our Volunteer Coordinator has also developed our community partnerships and interactions and has been connecting with local groups and engaging the broader community. She has also supported refuges and asylum seekers and works with social prescribers and primary care trusts to engage those with mental/physical challenges.

Testimonials

“Grounded Community is a little heaven, a place where you feel seen, heard and needed. The serenity of the Secret Garden is like a light bulb to one’s inner being. Every time I attend a volunteer session, I feel lighter and freer”.

“A lovely place to introduce small children in nature that do not usually get this opportunity normally”

“This is a fantastic community project bringing healthy food to those who may not be able to afford it and creating a local community spirit”

“Grounded Community is a wonderful, important charity, helping the community with vital mental health and support”.

Section D Achievements and performance

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves	The trustees discussed the following factors in arriving at their reserves policy: It would be prudent to keep three months running costs in reserves, or a minimum of £10K, in case of an unexpected drop in income/funding to be able to cover current salaries; and To be able to provide the charity with adequate financial stability and the means for it to meet its charitable objectives for the foreseeable future. It is the policy of the Charity to hold in reserves the equivalent of three months general core costs or a minimum of £10K to cover our regular monthly outgoings of which currently includes our staff management salaries. This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure a minimum reserve is maintained to accommodate any financial and/or operational changes such as the recruitment of additional staff.

the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising).

Grants Received during 1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025

We primarily relied on funding from grant applications during this period, the charity's principal sources summarised below.

Grant Body	Amount
National Lottery Community Fund	£61,347.00
Dorset Community Foundation	£25,309.00
Talbot Village Trust	£20,000.00
Wessex Water	£1,950.00
Alice Cooper Dean	£5,000.00
Hub-bubs Foundation	£1,000.00
National Lottery Rewards for All	£19,965.00
Unrestricted Donations	£12,574.00

Section F Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	
Full name(s)	Mark Stimson
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair
Date	27.01.2026

Sectic

Charity Name	No (if any)	
Grounded Community	**1187272**	**CC16a**

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01-Apr-24		31-Mar-25

Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Grants	68,002	77,344	-	145,346	127,717
Donations	12,574		-	12,574	17,963
Fundraising (crowdfunder)	-		-		
Sub total	80,576	77,344	-	157,920	145,680
A2 Asset and investment sales	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	0	0	-	-	-
Total receipts	80,576	77,344	-	157,920	145,680
A3 Payments					
Salaries/ Pensions and Employment costs	41,836	45,711	-	87,547	83,655
Contractor fees	5,236	9,968	-	15,204	16,641
Direct project costs inc materials	4,145	23,417	-	27,562	18,336
Office and admin	841	1134	-	1,975	630
General Expenses	90	224		315	599
Training and Development	1261	400	-	1,661	1,508
Vehicle Running Costs	292	2,219		2,511	- - - - -
Rent and land	1200	1,300	-	2,500	7,237
Other indirect expenses	3466	2,047	-	5,513	3,206
Sub total	58,368	86,420	-	144,788	131,812
A4 Assets purchases	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	58,368	86,420	-	144,788	131,812
Net of receipts/(payments)	22,208	-9,076	-	13,132	13,868
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds at last year end	9,374	39,230	-	48,604	34,736
Cash funds this year end	31,582	30,154	-	61,736	48,604

	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
Signed by Chair of trustees on behalf of all trustees		Mark Stimson	27.01.2026

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees / members of	**Grounded Community**
On the accounts for the year ended	31st March 2025 Charity number 1187272
Set out on page	Section C below
Responsibilities and basis of the report	I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/03/2025.** 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 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect: · accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or · the accounts do not accord with the accounting records **I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.** ** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*
Signed	**Date** 21/01/2026
Name	ANTHONY J. ELLIS
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body	A.A.T.
Address:	37 SHERWOOD AVENUE, POOLE,BH14 8DH

Section B Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose	

GROUNDED COMMUNITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1187272

Accounts

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
From	01	04	2023	**To**	31	03	2024

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Grounded Community
Other names charity is known by	Grounded
Registered charity number (if any)	1187272
Charity's principal address	Flat 5, Monaco Court
	Bournemouth,
	Dorset
	Postcode BH8 9QZ

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
John Hanson	Chair		N/A
John Richards			N/A
Helen Gialias			Trustees
Peter Drysdale	Treasurer		Trustees
Mark Stimson			Trustees
Theresa McManus		Started 20/03/24	Trustees

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
N/A	

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Michael French, Jonathan Watson Short, Karen Everett, Sharon Brinkman

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	CIO Foundation Model
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Every trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

Our charity's purposes as set out in the objects contained in the CIO Foundation Constitution are: -

1.To advance the education of the public in subjects of sustainable development and the protection, enhancement, and rehabilitation of the environment by teaching, demonstrating, and supporting people how to grow food to improve health and well-being.

2. The relief of those in need, by reason of age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage through the gathering, collection and distribution of food, the provision of support to grow food and the reduction of food waste.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Ensuring our work delivers our aims

We review our aims, objectives, and activities each year, held at a team day away at the end of January. This review looks at what we achieved and the outcomes of our work in the previous 12 months. The review looks at the success of each key activity and the benefits they have brought to those groups of people we are set up to help. The review also helps us ensure our aim, objectives and activities remained focused on our stated purposes. We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aim and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

The focus of our work

Our main objectives for the year continued to be the advancement of education related to teaching people food growing skills and distributing food to those in need.

The strategies we used to meet these objectives included:

- *Developing skill sharing workshops to help people learn about Food Growing Skills.*
- *To host volunteer sessions in our Secret Garden and other sites, including Little Gardeners.*
- *To help people grow their own food by installing raised beds and helping to get them started.*

- *To collect and distribute surplus food to local beneficiaries at Feed our Community.*
- *Establish the Gatherers programme for cooking and preserving surplus or foraged produce for local beneficiaries.*
- *Collect and compost local waste.*
- *Develop our bee keeping workshops and mentoring programme.*

Skills and Learning Workshops
Educational workshops mostly take place at the Secret Garden, but some visit the bees in the Nursery Garden or the bees and compost on the Sovereign Centre.

From the workshops we aim to equip people with the knowledge they need to then grow their own fruit and vegetables at home, with the ultimate ambition of helping the community become self-sufficient. Our skills and learning programme include one-off workshops to members of the public and ongoing volunteer training workshops, delivered during weekday volunteer sessions.

The workshops generally start with an introduction to the theory, followed by a practical session in which participants practice their new skills. After the practical session, there is a Q&A session with suggested home activities and resources to follow up what the participants have been learning about. There is usually something to take home – a detailed handout, seeds, plug plants or harvested food.

Our fortnightly volunteer training sessions go into further depth on seasonal topics to share skills and support growing at the Secret Garden.
Topics this year included mushroom growing, rainwater harvesting, making nettle soup, companion planting, composting and the Summer Solstice.

We also hold twice-weekly growing workshops in some community raised beds at a nearby public park called Churchill Gardens. These sessions run on Tuesday and Friday mornings as part of the ASPIRE project. The participants are learning food growing skills with our Outreach Coordinator, as part of a wider program to improve their physical health and get back into work.

In the autumn/winter period 2023/'24, we took some time to redesign our events and skills program of 2024 and beyond, to better fit the needs of the public by carrying out a survey to find out what people would like to see at the Secret Garden. As a result of the survey, our workshop calendar has been revised to include more Urban Food Growing Courses for more experienced growers, as well as extending the opportunities for families to learn to Grow Food for Free.

Volunteer sessions
Our garden volunteer sessions run throughout the whole year on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9am to 1pm.

These volunteer sessions at The Secret Garden provide several key services for our community.

- Growing local, seasonal, chemical-free food to give out to those in need, through our food distribution service (Feed Our Community).

- demonstrating simple, regenerative techniques for growing a wide variety of crops that can be replicated in back gardens.
- providing the skills needed for our community to grow their own food and everything that supports this (e.g. composting, wildlife gardening, beekeeping).
- nurturing a community of people who come to learn and share their own skills and experience.

Monday and Friday sessions are inclusive and open to all. They attract people with a range of ages, abilities, nationalities, backgrounds, beliefs and life circumstances, representative of our diverse area. Garden activities vary with the season and are catered to the interests, skills and ability of our volunteers. They include sowing, weeding, planting, harvesting, watering, seed saving, chicken care as well as DIY, creating wildlife habitats, composting, painting and developing new growing spaces. We hold an advanced volunteer skills training session twice a month. As well as helping our volunteers develop new skills, these sessions greatly contribute to their physical and mental health. There is always time for a hot drink and chat, usually with cakes and snacks contributed by our volunteers or staff.

Little Gardeners Stay & Play Sessions
Every Thursday morning at the Secret Garden during term time we run an urban food growing and wildlife gardening group for under 7s and their adult carers. In weekly 90-minute sessions, children take part in a variety of play-based activities based on growing organic, seasonal food and conserving wildlife habitats. These include digging, watering, weeding, sowing seeds, harvesting food, pond-dipping, plant and bug identification, making insect habitats, chicken care, craft activities, play-kitchens and reading books related to nature and food growing. There are always hot/cold drinks and healthy snacks available for adults and children.

Parents often comment on the calm, playful and friendly atmosphere. New friendships and connections are formed, and we have families signing up to our projects as a result of coming to the Little Gardeners play sessions.

As well as the activities that are laid out, all children and adults are encouraged to freely explore and enjoy our beautiful walled Secret Garden, complete with a sheltered outdoor classroom/kitchen area, wildlife pond, chicken run and polytunnel.

Our aim for the sessions is to initiate a positive lifelong connection with the outdoors, soil, plant life, chickens, wildlife and where our food comes from, to learn through play and to respect and take care of each other and our planet.

We run the Little Gardeners sessions every week in all weather conditions (apart from dangerously high winds and thunderstorms!). Our measurable outcomes are that 90% of adult attendees report that a) their children are more comfortable playing outside in nature, and b) are more familiar with where their food comes from, as a result of attending our Little Gardeners sessions.

In February 2024, the Little Gardeners were all invited to attend our annual winter picnic – the food was prepared by the Gatherers team of volunteers – it

was delicious, and much fun was had by all. In terms of funding for these sessions, we are still seeking suitable funding. In the meantime the sessions are continuing as the Trustees have deemed these sessions too popular and valuable for the community - the sessions are being paid for by general supporter and attendee donations, and any remaining shortfall is made up from our unrestricted funds.

Grounded Growers

This is our community outreach team, offering a raised bed installation service, supporting people to grow fruit and veg in their own back gardens, on patios or in workspaces.

The beginning of the year was busy installing raised beds for people eager to get a head start for the year's growing season. Most of the installations were for local residents, but some of the beds were installed at the head offices of Organix. We also ran a beginners food growing workshop for 30 of their staff. As the year progressed we installed some larger installations at West Howe Community Centre (Henry Brown) and at the Chine Hotel in Boscombe, and a large number of growing spaces at St Peter's Primary School and at Christchurch Junior School, where workshops were also run.

Feed Our Community

Feed our Community is our food distribution project. The project collects surplus food from supermarkets, cafes, home growers and allotments.

The volunteers work 7 days per week to collect, sort and supply food to those in need. Based at the St Georges food centre in Boscombe, the project is known for providing food boxes and for putting out food and hundreds come by each week to collect.

The Feed our Community van is often used to collect surplus food, and some volunteers use their own cars.

The challenges this year have been the continued drop in food donations, reduced volunteer availability as volunteers have needed to seek paid employment; rising cost of living impacting volunteers and beneficiaries. beneficiaries not accepting fresh produce as they do not have the practical/financial means to cook or the necessary skills/knowledge to know how to cook with fresh ingredients.

As a result of these challenges the project team has spent the last year exploring other similar projects/models and have asked people in the community what they would like the Feed our Community project to become and what would empower them. In January these conversations led to us toward the Food Hub/Pantry style model which we hope will give our project team an opportunity to bring people together, building on strengths, promoting community cohesion and building resilience. This will be a project to be progressed in 2024/2025.

Examples of those people that benefit from Feed Our Community are vulnerable individuals, single parent families, elderly, large families, those with mental health issues and/or substance abuse and low-income households. Many of the volunteers are also beneficiaries and our Feed our Community project team encourages everyone who can to get involved, building a more confident and resilient community.

Grounded Gatherers

The aim of Grounded Gatherers is to put surplus food to good use – whether it's unwanted fruit from gardens, foraged fruits from public spaces or even supermarket veg that needs using fast. Our Gatherers come together to create a whole range of seasonal delicacies such as nettle soup, rosehip syrup & three-cornered leek pesto as well as producing a variety of soups, juices, cakes, bakes and makes from food that would otherwise end up in landfill.

In the early part of the year staffing availability affected the frequency of the sessions but from the summer of 2023 our Grounded Gatherers restarted with an even bigger vision to gather produce from excess supermarket surplus, foraging, gleaning or donations.

Community Composting

We transform food waste from local businesses into nutritious compost, using our rocket composter on the roof of the Sovereign Centre in Boscombe.
In the early part of the year, the rocket composter was not operational for a while due to a technical problem. Once resolved, it was back up and running on the Sovereign Centre rooftop, turning food waste into high quality compost for community growing. In July and September 2023 we held rocket composting workshops and site tours to which attendees learned about the science of composting, how to get started at home.

During 2023/24 we discussed the resources needed to upgrade our composting operation to collect and process 2 or 3 times more food waste each week that at the present. This upgrade would involve installing a Dehydra De-waterer, which macerates the waste and removes problematic liquids. This would significantly reduce the volume and weight of the solid food waste before it is put into the rocket and enable it to operate more effectively and require less wood chip. We are currently looking for funders to apply to, to pay for the capital set up costs.

Grounded Bees

We keep beehives on the roof of the Sovereign Shopping Centre. We also keep a beehive at our Secret Garden 2 for educational purposes.

It was a busy educational year for our bees, volunteers and attendees. We exceeded our delivery plan target and grew our own stock of beehives from 4 at the start of the season to a total of 10 colonies going into the winter. Over the summer season, our bee project saw great success with the running of 'Busy Little Bee-Keeper' experience days for children aged 3 to 11. We ran six sessions with 52 children and 37 adults. The children learned about beekeeping, saw the hive and honeybees at work. We also ran beeswax crafting, an introductory beekeeping workshop, as well as two adult bee keeping experiences attended by 25 adults.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Overview

The charity continues to develop the many services it is delivering to the local community across each project and through pilot projects.

It has been another successful year. The increasing activity of garden and food related workshops and the attending of large amounts of regular volunteers have made the garden a hive of life this year. In addition the staff team have successfully navigated the high and lows and the joys and challenges of running all of our six projects whilst continually encouraging, supporting and reconnecting the local community with nature, food and with other.

Summary of Main Achievements for the Charity

Let's start with the Social Canteen pilot project. Following its success in October 2022 and January 2023, we decided to take the pilot project to the next level. We held a further 6-week pilot phase from half term in Mid-February until the end of March 2023. We then held the Social Canteen during April 2023 through until the end of May 2023, of which was another complete success.

We then went on to produce a 'How To' guide in setting up your own 'Social Canteen' - a PDF flipbook accessible that is available via our website, jam packed with advice, resources, recipes, printable downloads, editable templates and more. The aim of The Social Canteen Pilot Project was always to light a spark, galvanise local people and create long term, sustainable opportunities for people to eat well, spend less & socialise. With so many community projects relying on volunteers to make them happen we wanted to make the process of setting up and launching a Social Canteen as quick, easy and painless as possible. From June 2023, the Friendly Food Club and Bournemouth Foodbank started to run the Social Canteen model every Wednesday and Friday evening.

In the Spring of 2023 the Secret Garden for Good Friday hosted our first social event of 2023. We were overwhelmed by the number of visitors and volunteers that attended this 'thank you' and celebration for our volunteers and supporters. The weather was kind and the atmosphere was wonderful. It was a gathering full of love and joy shared with our incredible community. Sharing food together is such a huge part of our mission and values.

We also saw our Rocket Composter revived and back-up and running on the Sovereign Centre rooftop, turning food waste into high quality compost for community growing. In July and September 2023 we held rocket composting workshops and site tours to which attendees learned about the science of composting, how to get started at home including having a tour of our composter.

In April 2023, one of our core staff team members, Michael French, reduced his hours so he could spend more time communicating between circles and acting as an ambassador for the charity at different forums and action groups.

Also in April, our Chair of Trustees, John Hanson ran the London Marathon. This was John's first ever marathon. John raised money to help promote the work of the charity and to encourage the local community to grow food. The money raised contributed to our Nursery Garden funds.

In the summer of 2023 our Grounded Gatherers started back with an even bigger vision to gather produce from excess supermarket surplus, foraging, gleaning or donations.

Our school education provision went in a different direction to what had been previously projected in the delivery plan. We have made progress with engaging our local schools, but it has been a slow process. Unfortunately, Years 1 – 6 do not have a huge budget or time in their school day to fund regular growing workshops. Notwithstanding the above, the reception class made fortnightly visits to the garden from February to July 2023, with three of these facilitated by us (160 children in total).

The Grounded Growers staff team has seen some changes. In the summer we learned that the lovely Theresa McManus would be retiring from her role with us as the Growers Coordinator as from the beginning of December. During her time with us, she had installed over 20 raised beds and planted spaces, giving countless hours of garden consultations, as well as running weekly food growing workshops for the local community. However, the great news was that her incredible expertise was retained as she joined the team of Trustee's from January 2024. We were also pleased that having undertaken a thorough recruitment exercise for Theresa's replacement, we found ourselves with a new Home Growers Coordinator, Cheryl Needham. Cheryl has run her own successful gardening business for 20 years and has built up a substantial customer base. She has level 2 and 3 horticultural training and also successfully completed her Permaculture Design Certificate with flying colours in 2021.

Also as a result of Theresa's departure, an internal reshuffle took place. Our Operations Coordinator, Angela Gray, moved over to facilitate our volunteer sessions at the Secret Garden with our Educational Lead Coordinator, Jonathan Watson, as well as taking on the new role of Marketing and Communications Coordinator for us. And we were also pleased to be able to increase Jonathan's hours to 3 days per week for him to be able to attend both the Monday and Friday volunteer sessions held at the Secret Garden.

Our off-grid/outdoor kitchen-classroom space, 'The Deck', has been in use since construction in Autumn 2021. This year our DIY team researched, designed and installed an off-grid water system to educate and demonstrate, as well as for events and workshops. We now have clean running water for drinking, washing up and cooking, all from harvested rainwater and pumped using solar energy. The wastewater is cleaned up in a wormery and reed bed system before returning to the soil.

In November 2023, thanks to funding from Talbot Village Trust we were able to invest in a gas hob for the Deck, with further funding for Greenhills Foundation to cover the installation costs.

In December 2023, the BCP Access to Food Forum piloted the One Stop Glut Hut. This was a partnership project across BCP to save, store and share as much extra surplus food as possible over and after the Christmas period. Two industrial size freezers, three large fridges and large industrial shelving enabled us to collect and share over three tonnes of food between sixteen partner organisations across BCP during this busy festive season. The pilot project was headed up by one of our volunteers, George Godfrey, who stepped up to successfully coordinate this conurbation wide project.

At the beginning of January 2024 we launched our exciting new Community Kitchen facility at Vale Lodge in Boscombe, just around the corner from The Secret Garden. This has been made possible thanks to BCP Council Housing Landlord Services who have given us the opportunity to take over a sadly neglected kitchen facility and bring it back in to use for the benefit of the community. As part of this agreement, we can give other community groups access to this fully equipped, 5-star food hygiene rated facility. So far, we have partnered with Bee Mission, Safe and Sound Dorset and SWRAC. It's fantastic to be working with SWRAC again, this time offering their fabulous students a work placement processing food surplus & preventing food waste, giving residents access to tasty, nutritious meals and engaging with residents to help bring their Communal Room back to life with board games, conversation, company and more.

This project has made a huge difference to the lives of so many, enabling Bee Mission to prepare 50 meals a week that are distributed to people who are street homeless in the local area as well as making it possible for Bee Mission to start to look at providing volunteering and training opportunities for the people they are supporting. Safe and Sound Dorset is a local charity supporting women who are isolated and at risk. Access to Vale Lodge Community Kitchen has allowed us to launch a new, small group session, offering women the opportunity to come together to produce a range of simple, tasty, homemade cakes and bakes to serve to customers at The Well Coffee Lounge (not for profit).

The launch of the new Community Kitchen facility provides us with access to a fully equipped, commercial kitchen facility to preserve and process surplus food to support and further strengthening our links with other charities and community groups in the BCP Council Access to Food Partnership. We are currently in discussions with PRAMA and The Friendly Food Club about possibilities of joint working to benefit the wider community and also looking to work with BCP to explore the possibility of using the Vale Lodge Community Kitchen Facility as a learning centre to deliver in-person Level 2 Food Hygiene and Safety Training. This training is currently available to volunteers free of charge through BCP Community Action Network for free, but the training is online which makes it difficult for many of volunteers to complete if, for example, English is not their first language who they have special educational needs.

At the end of January 2024, we all came together for our annual Away Weekend trip to Studland in Dorset. We spent an inspiring two days together planning and strategizing for the year ahead. We reviewed the past years achievements and shared stories of community resilience from across our six projects. We enjoyed expertly facilitated training on how to run team circle

meetings using holocratic processes for our decision making. We laughed, we cried (happy tears), we shared our ideas, and we enjoyed building even deeper bonds, in our commitment to support our incredible community in 2024 and beyond.

On the evening of our Away Weekend, a couple of the team attended the Hall & Woodhouse Rewards Evening, of where we were delighted to receive an award of £2,000 to pay for the installation of some heavy-duty canvas weather protection curtains for the 'Deck', to maximise the use of the outdoor learning space all year round.

Main Achievements for our Grounded Gardens Project:

- Over 94 Garden volunteering sessions.
- Over 20 Garden volunteer training workshop sessions held each month for our Friday volunteers. Delivered by our own Educational Lead with some guest speakers. Average attendees: 14 adults and 2 children per session.
- 37 people attended our first public open day – Seed Swap pan 10th February 2024.
- 91 attendees at the Growing Zone at Churchill Gardens.
- 9 DIY Day sessions attracting around 105 people in total.
- 10 Community meals (including open days) were hosted (299 attendees).
- We have been able to share fresh and nutritious food with our community. We have had between 30 and 50 people, families and individuals at the gatherings.
- Around 65 adults and children attended our 'Volunteer and Supporter' Thank you Gathering.
- 40 attended the annual Christmas Gathering.
- 22 Little Gardener sessions delivered to 715 attendees. Fully booked each week with 15 on the waiting list.
- 22 children and 16 adults attended the Little Gardeners Winter Picnic.
- 474 visits from the local school children.
- 32 weekend workshops with a total of 350 visits.

Main Achievements for our Grounded Growers Project:

- 50 residents on the Beaufort Road Estate are now being supported with workshops to grow food in their raised beds via the Food e-Box scheme.
- 40 children attending the Beaufort Road Pre-School and Community Centre now have access to outdoor growing space.
- 10 residents and their families have benefitted from installations plus 50 residents around Shelley Gardens and same again around Deacons Park
- 1 resident has now extended her growing space.
- 3 residents have benefitted from general advice on garden design.
- 1 resident has now benefitted from the pruning of an overgrown border.

- 15 individuals at the Chine Hotel now have access to the delivery of weekly growing workshops using both the raised beds and other growing spaces.
- 480 children attending St. Peter's Primary School (and also Christchurch Junior School) now have access to outdoor growing spaces through the installation of raised planters.

Main Achievements for our Feed Our Community Project:

- 62 tonnes of surplus food have been collected the equivalent of the weight of 42 family size cars.
- 45 – 50 regular volunteers at any one time
- 4,700 food boxes have been given out – about 95 a week.
- 15 tonnes of food have been redistributed by leaving it for collection or using it for providing food via the social canteen project, the vale lodge project or other community meals, supporting 2000 people per month.
- 3,600 regular collections of surplus food have been made by volunteers from 11 local organisations – about 70 pickups per week.
- 9,660 client visits to pick up food boxes.

Main Achievements for our Grounded Gatherers Project:

Despite a late start to this project it is now going well and shows promise for 2024-2025. Its achievements were: -

- 10 gatherer sessions.
- 48 volunteers attended the gatherer sessions.
- 165 beneficiaries

Main Achievements for our Community Composting Project:

Each week our team of 2 operators collect waste from 15 locations.
Here's what they achieved: -

- Over 753 full caddies of food waste, coffee grounds, wood chips, hair and spent beer grains have been collected and processed.
- Around 8 tonnes of food waste have been diverted from incineration or landfill and transformed into compost.
- Over 3.0 tonnes (or 6.6 cubic metres) of high-quality compost have been produced for use in local community food growing projects. These include The Secret Garden and home gardens. Several families and community groups are now benefitting, both physically and mentally, as a result of growing and eating more locally grown food.
- 2 workshops held in the Spring and Autumn of 2023

Main Achievements for our Grounded Bees Project:

- 6 'Busy Little Bee-keeper' sessions – 52 children in attendance and 37 adults
- 2 adult bee-keeping sessions – 25 adults in attendance.
- 55Kgs of honey harvested.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The trustees discussed the following factors in arriving at their reserves policy:

1. It would be prudent to keep three months running costs in reserves in case of an unexpected drop in income/funding so as to be able to cover current salaries and
2. To be able to provide the charity with adequate financial stability and the means for it to meet its charitable objectives for the foreseeable future.

It is the policy of the Charity to hold in reserves the equivalent of three months general core costs or a minimum of £10K to cover our regular monthly outgoings of which currently includes our staff management salaries.

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure a minimum reserve is maintained to accommodate any financial and/or operational changes such as the recruitment of additional staff.

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising).

Grants Received during 1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024

We primarily relied on funding from grant applications during this period, summarised below.

Grant Body	**Amount**
National Lottery Community Fund	65,000
Dorset Community Fund	23,000
Talbot Village Trust	30,000
J P Morgan	1,000
Hall and Woodhouse	2,000
Friendly Food Club	1,235
Gift Aid	1,470
Other Donations	17,000

Section F Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	
Full name(s)	John Hanson
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair of Trustees
Date	28th January 2025

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees / members of	**Grounded Community**
On the accounts for the year ended	31st March 2024 Charity number 1187272
Set out on page	Section C below
Responsibilities and basis of the report	I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/03/2024.** 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 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect: · accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or · the accounts do not accord with the accounting records **I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.** ** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*
Signed	 **Date** 24/01/2025
Name	ANTHONY J. ELLIS
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body	A.A.T.
Address:	37 SHERWOOD AVENUE, POOLE,BH14 8DH

Section B Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose	

Sectic

Charity Name	No (if any)	
Grounded Community	1187272	CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01-Apr-23		31-Mar-24

Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Grants		127,717	-	127,717	114,459
Donations	17,963		-	17,963	19,776
Fundraising (crowdfunder)	-		-		
Sub total	17,963	127,717	-	145,680	134,234
A2 Asset and investment sales	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	17,963	127,717	-	145,680	134,234
A3 Payments					
Salaries costs	7,400	76,255	-	83,655	70,903
Contractor fees	1,980	14,661	-	16,641	15,165
Direct project costs inc materials	6,388	11,948	-	18,336	17,339
Office and admin	129	501	-	630	2,441
Expenses	121	478	-	599	280
Training		1,508	-	1,508	1,890
Rent and land	30	7,207	-	7,237	4,650
Other indirect expenses	192	3,014	-	3,206	2,760
Sub total	16,240	115,572	-	131,812	115,429
A4 Assets purchases	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	16,240	115,572	-	131,812	115,429
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,723	12,145	-	13,868	18,806
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds at last year end	7,651	27,085	-	34,736	15,930
Cash funds this year end	9,374	39,230	-	48,604	34,736

	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
Signed by Chair of trustees on behalf of all trustees		John Hanson	28.01.25

GROUNDED COMMUNITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1187272

Accounts



ANNUAL REPORT

2022 - 2023

Grounded COMMUNITY

INTRODUCTION TO THE CHARITY

Well, what a year it's been! The team at Grounded Community have successfully weathered the roller-coaster of seasons, highs and lows, joys and challenges, of running a community based charity with a big mission: to educate, share and grow, so we can reconnect members of our community with nature, with food and with each other.



ENSURING OUR WORK DELIVERS OUR AIMS



01

OUR VISION:

A world where all urban communities have access to locally grown, nutritious food.

02

OUR MISSION

To educate, share and grow, so we can reconnect members of our community with nature, with food and with each other.
We want to work together to build an abundant, circular food system and a culture of storing, reusing and redistributing food surplus. To do this, we focus on four areas: education, community, access to food and environment.

OBJECTS -WHY THEY ARE CHANGING

Whilst our core operations have remained much the same as when we officially registered the charity in 2020, our practices and approaches are adapting and changing all the time. Societal changes, due to the cost-of-living crisis, have had an impact on our team, volunteers, beneficiaries, and provision. As a result, in 2022 we submitted a request to the Charity Commission, to change our charity objects to align our activities more fully with our primary purposes.

1. To advance the education of the public in subjects of sustainable development and the protection, enhancement, and rehabilitation of the environment by teaching, demonstrating, and supporting people how to grow food to improve health and well-being.

2. The relief of those in need, by reason of age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage through the gathering, collection and distribution of food, the provision of support to grow food and the reduction of food waste.



FACES BEHIND THE CHARITY - TRUSTEES

Our Trustees are highly qualified and skilled members of the local community, who give a huge amount of time and energy to support the charity. This year we have expanded the Trustee team with the appointment of Mark Stimson on 14th July 2022, who brings vast experience as a Commercial Property Lawyer, along with skills and passion for cooking and addressing food insecurity. We would like to thank Chukuma Dibigbo for his time and commitment, as he departed the team on 10th January 2023. Chukuma is a local graphic designer and volunteer, who created much of our beautiful branding.



JOHN HANSON

CHAIR OF TRUSTEES



PETER DRYSDALE

TRUSTEE & TREASURER





JOHN RICHARDS

TRUSTEE



HELEN GIALIAS

TRUSTEE



MARK STIMSON

TRUSTEE

FACES BEHIND THE CHARITY - COORDINATORS



MICHAEL FRENCH

PROJECTS



JONNO WATSON SHORT

SKILLS & LEARNING



KAREN EVERETT

ADMINISTRATION & POLICY



SHARON BRINKMAN

VOLUNTEER & HR



ANGELA GRAY

OPERATIONS



THERESA MCMANUS

OUTREACH



JENNY MUELLER

FEED OUR COMMUNITY



ADAM HORAN

CONTRACTOR - COMPOSTING



FRED SEDGLEY

CONTRACTOR – BEE'ZZ



AIMEE GRAHAM

CONTRACTOR - SOCIAL MEDIA

> "EVERYTIME I VISIT THE GARDEN THE STAFF ARE ALWAYS SO POSITIVE AND HELPFUL, I'M ALWAYS ENCOURAGED TO HELP OUT!"

In April 2022, thanks to the securing of core funding from the National Lottery Community Fund, we were able to embark on a recruitment drive to expand our paid staff team. We successfully increased our head count by 4 part time staff, many of whom started as volunteers and developed into their current roles. As a result, we now have an amazing team of diverse, passionate, and talented people; 7 part-time paid staff and 3 contractors. This allowed us to assign a Project Coordinator to each of our 6 key projects, including a dedicated Volunteer & HR Coordinator. In addition, we have self-funded further contractor resources, to support our Little Gardeners Stay & Play Sessions at the Secret Garden and expand our Grounded Gatherers project.

ACHIEVEMENTS

OUTLINE OF ACHIEVEMENTS:

This year, with the addition of Grounded Growers and Social Canteen projects, we achieved exponential growth at our main hubs; the Secret Garden and Feed Our Community at the Bournemouth Food Bank premises. This expansion led to increased volunteer engagement, van use, team coordination, financial expenses and prompted a major upgrade to our systems, policies, and processes.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

In March 2022, with support from the Access to Food Partnership, we co-hosted the “Growing Great Ideas” event, attracting 65 individuals.s. Representatives included local councillors and charities, allotment owners and farmers, foragers and chef’s; anyone with an interest in food security. This event helped to shape our focus and strategy for the year, including the development of our food web.

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

Adopting a holacratic system inspired by other forward-thinking organisations, we decentralised management, introduced consent decision making, established a flat pay structure, and empowered our multi-role teams to be self-managing. Professional training enhanced internal and external interactions, and engagement with coordinators led to a more streamlined structure. Meeting circles and SharePoint implementation improved decision-making transparency and teamwork

SOCIAL CANTEEN PILOT:

The aim of The Social Canteen was to light a spark, galvanise local people and create long term, sustainable opportunities for people to eat well, spend less & socialise. Launched in October 2022, The Social Canteen pilot, supported by Dorset Community Foundation and BCP Food Support Fund, served over 1,000 meals to those in need. Positive feedback and learnings are guiding the creation of a blueprint guide for similar social community gatherings across the conurbation and beyond.



VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE:

A dedicated HR & Volunteer Coordinator improved our volunteer experience; an ever increasing 170+ strong team. A streamlined sign-up process, online check-in, the introduction of garden tours, and feedback questionnaires have enhanced engagement. Mailchimp implementation engages over 1000 newsletter subscribers and we see a daily increase on our current 2,000+ social media followers.

PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATIONS:

We have expanded connections with local businesses, charities, and social care groups. Our collaborations with Help & Care, International Care Network, and local NHS Social Prescriber's help to support members of our community with their physical and mental well-being. Our corporate supporters, such as Dorset Tea, Organix, LUSH Cosmetics, Pretty Clever Media, Just Move In, Hall & Woodhouse, Elliotts Builders' Merchant, Arts University Bournemouth and Bournemouth University, have all generously contributed funding, time, and resources.

GROUNDED GROWERS PROJECT LAUNCH:

With the intention of providing greater sustainability for the charity, our Grounded Growers project piloted an outreach service, providing one-to-one support and a raised bed installation service for home growers. Charges are means-tested, and supplier relationships allow for free soil donations for community projects.

COMMUNITY FOOD WEB



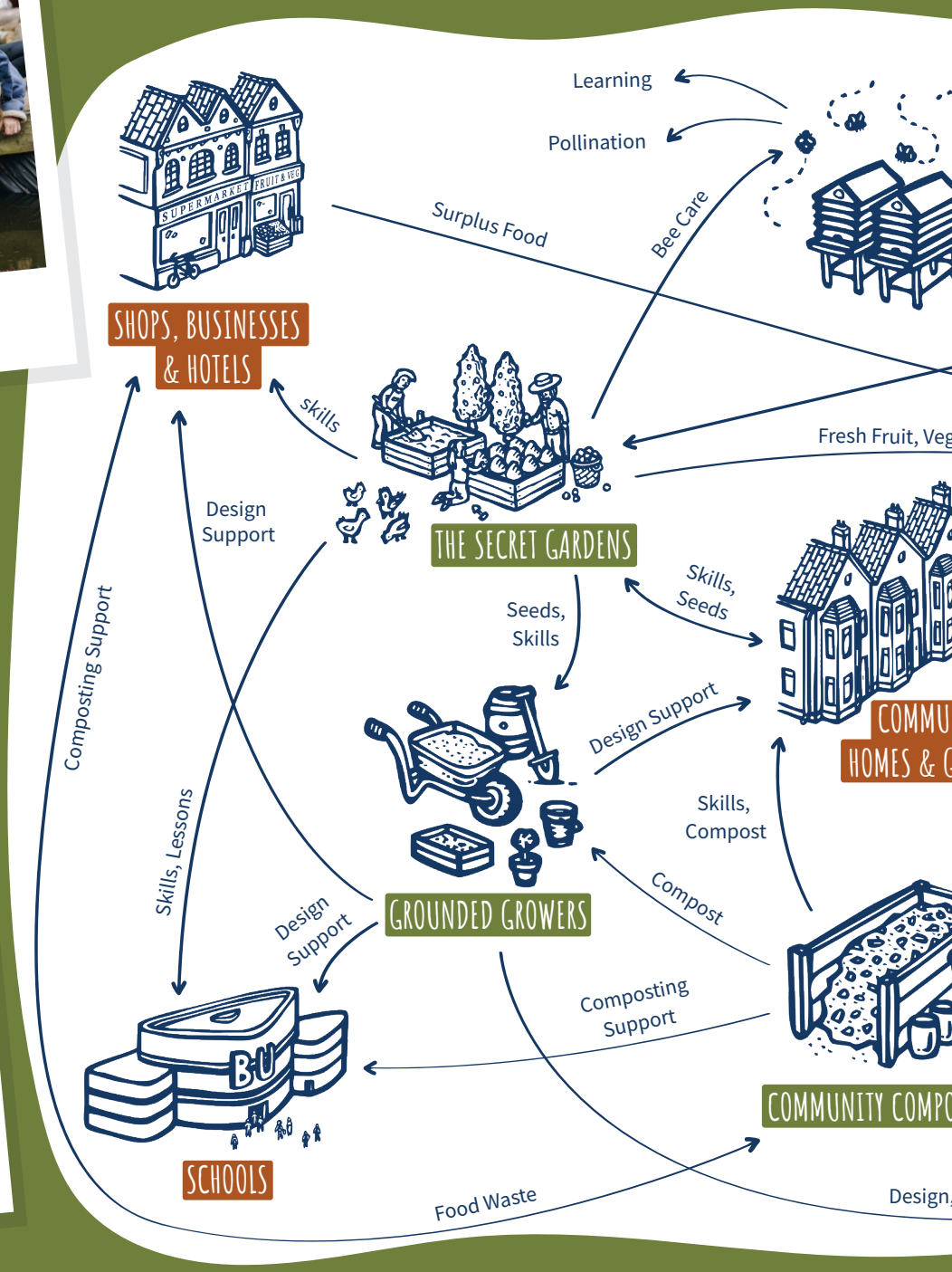
NATURE PLAY



CHURCHILL GARDENS

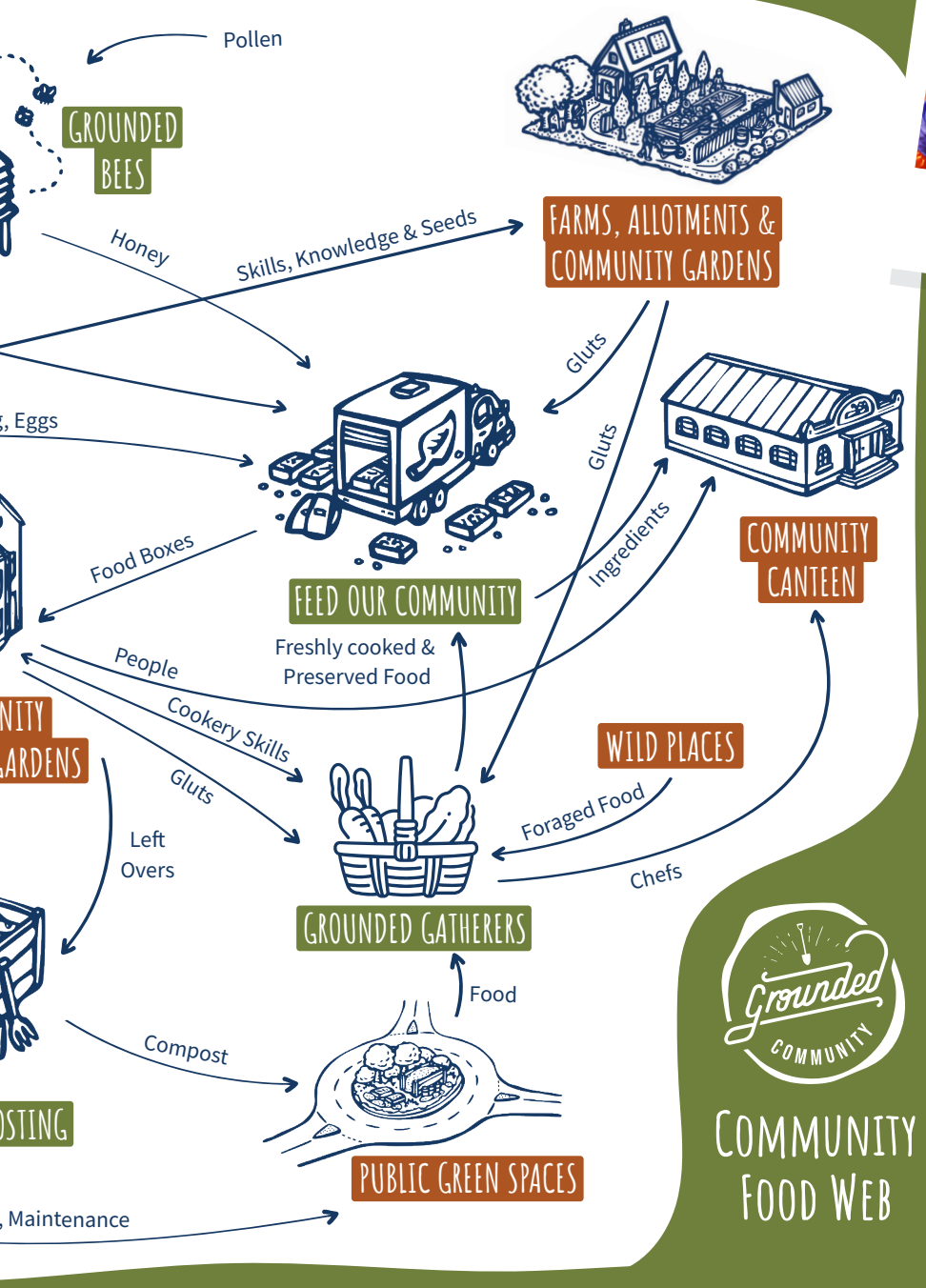


PARTNERSHIPS



GROUNDED MAP

We manage six projects and we're always on the lookout for new and creative ways to connect members of our community with nature, with food and with each other, so our projects can evolve and change in response to local needs.



COMMUNITY FOOD WEB



FREDS' BEE'ZZ



COMMUNITY COMPOSTING



RAISED BED INSTALLATION

Our food web has been developed through many iterations over the years, as our community projects have expanded. This version was created with the help of local artist Miroslav Lucan, of Lucanart, at our "Growing Great Ideas" event in March 2022. It demonstrates our circular economy and has enabled us to focus our attention on our service gaps.



OUR PROJECTS



SECRET GARDENS

Our skills & learning hubs with chickens, an outdoor kitchen and a huge variety of fruit and veg looked after by a team of volunteers. Here we hold workshops, community meals, playgroups & events.

FEED OUR COMMUNITY

Collecting, sorting and distributing locally grown and supermarket surplus food to the right places and the right people – those who really need it.

GROUNDED GROWERS

Our community outreach team, offering a raised bed installation service, supporting people to grow fruit and veg in their own back gardens, on patios or in workspaces.

GROUNDED GATHERERS

Preserving, pickling, cooking, dehydrating and storing surplus fruit and veg from gardens, public spaces and supermarkets.

COMMUNITY COMPOSTING

We transform food waste from local businesses into nutritious compost, using our 700 litre rocket composter on the roof of the Sovereign Centre in Boscombe.

GROUNDED BEE'ZZ

Wherever we grow plants, we need pollinators – and bees are the best creatures for the job. We look after bee colonies on the roof of the Sovereign Centre and in our Nursery Garden in Boscombe.

SECRET GARDENS

This year our Gardens project has developed across several sites and community offerings, all of which are coordinated by our Gardens team.

100 volunteering sessions

32 skills workshops

438 workshop attendees

72 workshops at our community allotments

716 children attended Little Gardeners playgroup

32 Little Gardeners sessions

AYESHA

SECRET GARDEN VOLUNTEER



Ayesha has lived in Springbourne for 50 years. She was introduced to the garden by a friend and has since made many new like-minded connections, as well as receiving support and materials to build her own growing space at home. Having sadly lost her brother and niece during the pandemic, she also experienced an emotional support which she wasn't expecting. "Being at the garden really helps to ground me and bring me into the moment, which gives a sense of peace and helps to alleviate the anxiety". Ayesha is a calming presence to all who volunteer alongside her and now has a reputation for her legendary samosa's, which she brings every week for all our volunteers to enjoy.

COMMUNITY COMPOSTING

This project, funded by CoastalBID completed its first year of operations by March 2023 and is located on the roof of the Sovereign Shopping Centre in Boscombe.

SURPLUS food programme

974 Full Caddies of food waste went into our Rocket Composter

15 Businesses have their food waste collected by 2 contractors

8.1 Tonnes of food waste diverted from incineration/landfill

5 Tonnes of compost produced & used in the community

47 Tonnes of food diverted from surplus pick-ups

ADAM

GARDEN VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY COMPOSTING COORDINATOR



"During lock-down in 2020, Adam had lost his Mum to a heart attack, so when his mental health started deteriorating, he decided to visit the garden. "For the first time in my life, I felt like I was doing something right, that had direction, and it also helped me to assess how I live my own life in terms of waste and sustainability." Adam helped build our shelter in the nursery garden and also a space on the Sovereign Centre roof for our rocket composter. It was there he connected with the centre manager, who proposed a project funded by Bournemouth Coastal Bid, to collect food waste and manage watering in local green spaces. Adam has since become an invaluable member of the team on our Composting project, collecting over 8.1 tonnes of food waste in our first year of operation."

GROUNDED GROWERS

In May 2022, our Grounded Growers project was launched, offering a consultation service for home growers and community spaces, including the installation of raised beds with the option of ongoing support and advice.

15 Raised Beds
installed on the Beaufort Housing Estate

10 Raised Beds
installed in local residents' gardens

4 Local School
consultations on outdoor space use

4 Raised Beds
installed at the Organix HQ

4 Raised Beds
installed at a local hotel

£3,500+
income generated to support our activities

PHIL

GROUNDED GROWERS & GARDEN VOLUNTEER



"Phil was referred to the garden by Terry from Help & Care in 2021. During lock-down, Phil started leaning heavily on alcohol, after leaving his management job following an emotional breakdown. At his lowest point, he was sectioned after two suicide attempts and 3 days in intensive care. "Over the past year, the garden has literally saved my life, it's given me hope, it's rebuilt my self-confidence and improved my self-esteem. I was completely isolated and alone, but the garden has given me structure, improved my health and even changed my perspective about the environment and society. I've connected with so many genuinely caring people." Phil is now an inspiring member of our volunteer team, getting stuck in with DIY jobs, installing raised beds in the community, and making new friends along the way."

Feed Our Community

Our food surplus distribution project; we continue to pick up surplus food from supermarkets, cafés and other businesses, with fresh fruit and veg supplemented by our gardens and home growing spaces. We also receive generous donations from the public.

30+ Volunteers
are out 2-3 times per day

61
weekly surplus food pick-ups every week

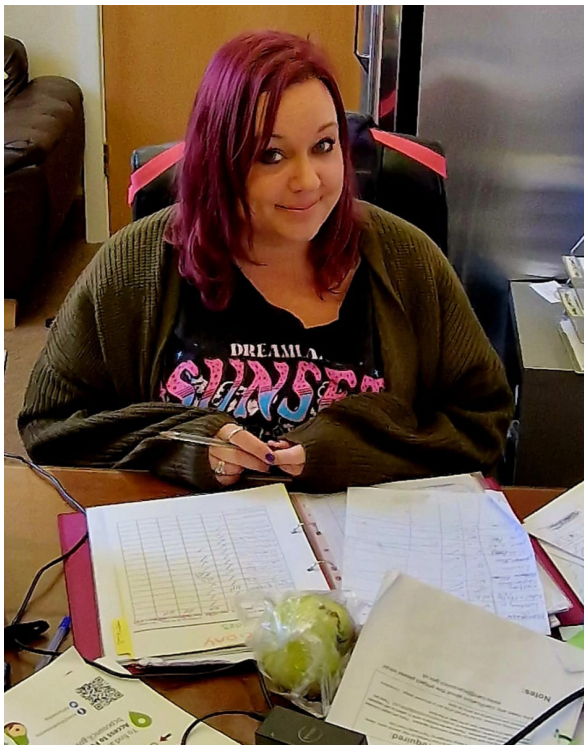
1.5 Tonnes
surplus food every week

14,560kg
of bread redistributed

46,837kg
of food redistributed

Georgina

Feed Our Community Volunteer



In 2021, Georgina was suffering with PTSD, was claustrophobic and felt surrounded by negativity. “I started volunteering at Feed Our Community on Thursday’s and alternate Friday’s and it was one of the best things I did!”. Georgina’s enthusiasm to learn has meant that she has taken on multiple admin tasks at the hub, from social media to client coordination and data tracking. “I love hands-on learning and I’m becoming a data nerd! I really enjoy seeing how much food we save from landfill and how much we give back to the local community.” Georgina has experienced great camaraderie with her teammates too. “The best part is the people I work alongside. The people in our building are so friendly, welcoming, and kind. I have so many clients making the effort to have a chat. It’s nice being part of a community. It has really brought my confidence back, helped me through a tough time and given my children a great life lesson.” We love you too George!

GROUNDED GATHERERS

The purpose of our Gatherers project is to pool community resources to make food go further. A great opportunity to learn something new, share skills, eat together and all whilst helping to feed our local community and prevent food waste.

Food surplus from our Feed Our Community project is used for these sessions, in addition to gluts collected from local gardens. As a result, stronger connections are being built with allotments and community growing spaces.

£8,000
National Lottery Grant seed funded in 2021

90%
improved their skills in preserving & cooking

150 Low Income
households benefited from session produce



GROUNDED BEE'ZZ

Our Grounded Bee'zz project now has multiple colonies on the rooftop of the Sovereign Shopping Centre in Boscombe, including several hives from partner charity Bee Mission.

Two further hives in our Nursery Garden are the base for our educational experience sessions.

40 Children
got up close to the bees

15kg HONEY
was harvested and jarred by our team of volunteers

THE SOCIAL CANTEEN

As a result of our “Growing Great Ideas” gathering at the start of 2022, we wanted to gauge support for “The Social Canteen”, a new way of eating - together.

With a passion for tackling food insecurity and experience of community engagement, key stakeholders were rallied from Bournemouth Food Bank, BCP Council Community Development Team and C3 Collaborating for Health. The project was developed and piloted during the October 2022 half term, based at the Gardens Rooms at the Bournemouth Food Bank.

Our 40 strong volunteer team came together in the preparation, cooking and front of house meal service, bringing members of our local community together for a wholesome two course meal. Strong partnerships were formed with The Friendly Food Club and SWRAC, a local young people’s charity, who now cook with us every Friday.

100
meals distributed on <20 events

63 Local People
fed on each of our open evenings

100%
Satisfaction feedback from 120 Questionnaires

4.5/5
Quality of food & Quality of venue

5★
Food Hygiene Rating

73%
of people were feeling the pinch with money





THE SOCIAL CANTEEN CASE STUDY

Len had been living in a bedsit for the past couple of years after separating from his partner and was feeling isolated. He had been invited to the Social Canteen by a volunteer and was sitting alone when Rosann approached his table and introduced herself. The pair struck up a lively conversation and before long, Len had invited Rosann to his flat for a cuppa and they've been firm friends ever since. They now attend every week, enjoying each others company, as well as the wholesome meals. "Rosie has become a close friend of mine, and we really enjoy eating with other people from our neighbourhood. I also get to grumble with a few people and they get to grumble back!"


SOCIAL
M.E.N.U
THE SOCIAL CANTEEN
SAVE MONEY, SAVE TIME, SOCIALISE & EAT WELL!


DORSET TEA
A CUP OF SUNSHINE
DATE 26/05/22
PAY Grounded Community
Three Hundred Pounds Only
£ £300.00
SIGNED
HERE FOR THE COMMUNI-TEA
000 1234567891 12 34 56 78
DORSETTEA.CO.UK
ORSET TEA

FUNDERS

FUNDERS - £118,159 RECEIVED THIS YEAR!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our funders for their commitment to the charity this year. This table reflects the amount of income we have received from grants and other commercial funders.

MONTH/YEAR GRANT FUND RECEIVED	FUNDER AGREEMENT NAME	FUND APPLIED VALUE £	FUND TYPE I.E. RESTRICTED OR UNRESTRICTED
Jan 2023	HubBub	£5,000.00	RESTRICTED - From April for FOC/Social Canteen to cover rent for Apr, May, Jun & Jul
Dec 2022	Green Hall Foundation	£3,000.00	RESTRICTED - To complete and upgrade facilities
Dec 2022	Boscombe Charity Shop	£2,150.00	RESTRICTED - Solar Upgrade to the Shack
Dec 2022	Dorset Community Foundation Winter Warmth Fund	£7,500.00	RESTRICTED - FOC/Social Canteen to cover some core costs and project running costs
Dec 2022	SSFS 12 Days Grant (Strategic Solutions)	£1,000.00	UNRESTRICTED DONATION
Nov 2022	Sovereign Housing Community Funding	£1,000.00	RESTRICTED - Communities Funding Agreement for Growers on Shelley Close
Oct 2022	Bournemouth Coastal Bid	£1,700.00	RESTRICTED - Roof for the composter
0ct 2022	Alice Ellen Cooper Dean	£20,000.00	RESTRICTED - Core costs – from Jan 23 until Dec 2023
Sept 2022	Dorset Community Foundation Nature Heals Fund	£1,000.00	RESTRICTED - Core costs – for the staffing of the Little Gardeners sessions and resources
July 2022	Dorset Community Foundation Grant	£1,500.00	RESTRICTED - Core costs and Project running costs for FOC and the Social Canteen
June 2022	Dorset Community Foundation Grant	£7,000.00	RESTRICTED - Core costs and project running costs
May 2022	National Lottery Community Fund	£67,309	RESTRICTED - Core costs received quarterly



ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

We have developed a robust SharePoint based finance system, allowing us to track our finances on 3 levels; Transactions, Projects and Fund. We have prepared project plans, defining each holacratic circle, its remit, its team and the corresponding budget for each project. Our finance circle is also working towards forecast budget tracking, RAG status report by project and our funding pipeline tracker, which will link to our finance system.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR TREASURER:



PETER DRYSDALE

TRUSTEE & TREASURER

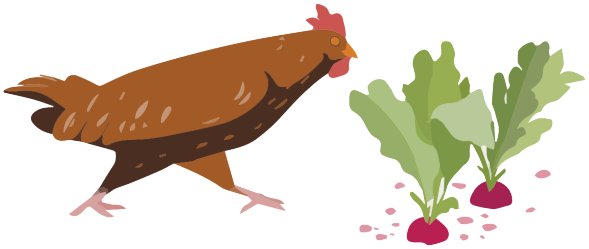
Grounded Community is an ambitious charity who are seeking to make an impact in the BCP area and beyond. Though still relatively young, the charity has grown each year and this is true for both our financial processes and controls, which are stronger than ever. We are in good financial health and with the committed backing from a range of donors and bodies, including the National Lottery Community Fund, Reaching Communities grant, the trustees are certain that the charity is a going concern and that we will continue this upward trajectory.

2023 ACCOUNTS SNAPSHOT

£ 134,234 - TOTAL RECEIPTS

£ 115,429 - TOTAL PAYMENTS

£ 34,736 - E.O.Y CASH FUNDS



2023 GROUNDED ACCOUNTS

Description	*Unrestricted Funds*	*Restricted Funds*	*Total Funds*	*Last Years' Funds*
RECEIPTS				
Grants		£ 114,459	£ 114,459	£ 47,944
Donations	£ 19,390	£ 386	£ 19,776	
Fundraising				£ 5,000
TOTAL RECEIPTS	**£ 19,390**	**£ 114,844**	**£ 134,234**	**£ 52,944**
PAYMENTS				
Salaries & Allied Costs	£ 12,601	£ 58,302	£ 70,903	
Contractor Fees	£ 498	£ 14,667	£ 15,166	
Direct Project Costs	£ 1,003	£ 16,336	£ 17,339	£ 1,904
Office & Admin	£ 83	£ 2,358	£ 2,441	£ 18,613
Trustee Expenses	£ 36	£ 245	£ 280	
Training	£ 453	£ 1,437	£ 1,890	
Rent & Land		£ 4,650	£ 4,650	£ 2,250
Other Indirect Expenses	£ 15	£ 2,745	£ 2,760	£ 38,402
TOTAL PAYMENTS	**£ 14,689**	**£ 100,740**	**£ 115,429**	**£ 61,169**

YEARLY ACCOUNTS OVERVIEW				
Total Payments	**£ 14,689**	**£ 100,740**	**£ 115,429**	**£ 61,169**
Net of Receipts/Payments	**£ 4,702**	**£ 14,104**	**£ 18,806**	**£ 8,224**
Cash Funds at Last Year End	**£ 2,949**	**£ 12,981**	**£ 15,930**	**£ 24,154**
CASH FUNDS THIS YEAR END	**£ 7,651**	**£ 27,085**	**£ 34,736**	**£ 15,930**



CONTACT US

FIND US BEHIND THE CHURCH:
ST CLEMENT'S RD, BOSCOMBE, BOURNEMOUTH, BH1 4DZ
WEB: WWW.GROUNDEDCOMMUNITY.CO.UK

REG CHARITY NO.: 1187272
REG CHARITY ADDRESS: FLAT 5, MONACO COURT, CHARMINSTER ROAD, BOURNEMOUTH, BH8 9QZ

@GROUNDEDCOMMUNITYCHARITY

@GROUNDED-COMMUNITY

Section C Accounts

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name	No (if any)	
Grounded Community	**1187272**	**CC16a**

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01-Apr-22		31-Mar-23

Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Grants	-	114,459	-	114,459	47,944
Donations	19,390	386	-	19,776	
Fundraising (crowdfunder)	-	-	-	-	5,000
Sub total	19,390	114,844	-	134,234	52,944
A2 Asset and investment sales	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	19,390	114,844	-	134,234	52,944
A3 Payments					
Salaries and allied costs	12,601	58,302	-	70,903	
Contractor fees	498	14,667	-	15,165	
Direct project costs	1,003	16,336	-	17,339	1,903
Office and admin	83	2,358	-	2,441	18,613
Trustee expenses	36	245	-	280	
Training	453	1,437	-	1,890	-
Rent and land	-	4,650	-	4,650	2,250
Other indirect expenses	15	2,745	-	2,760	38,402
Sub total	14,689	100,740	-	115,429	61,169
A4 Assets purchases	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	14,689	100,740	-	115,429	61,169
Net of receipts/(payments)	4,702	14,104	-	18,806	- 8,224
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds at last year end	2,949	12,981	-	15,930	24,154
Cash funds this year end	7,651	27,085	-	34,736	15,930

	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
Signed by Chair of trustees on behalf of all trustees		JOHN HANSON	19.01.24

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees / members of

Grounded Community

On the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2023 Charity number 1187272

Set out on page Section C below

Responsibilities and basis of the report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/03/2023.**

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 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed  **Date** 17/01/2024

Name ANTHONY J. ELLIS

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body A.A.T.

Address: 37 SHERWOOD AVENUE, POOLE,BH14 8DH

Section B Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the

any items that the examiner wishes to disclose

GROUNDED COMMUNITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1187272

Accounts

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
From	01	06	2021	**To**	31	03	2022

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Grounded Community
Other names charity is known by	Grounded
Registered charity number (if any)	1187272
Charity's principal address	Flat 5, Monaco Court
	Bournemouth,
	Dorset
	Postcode BH8 9QZ

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
John Hanson	Chair		N/A
John Richards			N/A
Camilla Hawley		9th Jan '22 ended	N/A
Chris Swain		9th Jan '22 ended	N/A
Helen Gialias		10th Nov '21	Trustees
Peter Drysdale	Treasurer	10th Nov '21	Trustees
Chukuma D		10th Nov '21	Trustees

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
N/A	

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Michael French, Jonathan Watson Short, Karen Everett, Sharon Brinkman

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	CIO Foundation Model

Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Every trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

Our charity's purposes as set out in the objects contained in the CIO Foundation Constitution are to: -

To advance the education of the public in subjects related to sustainable development and the protection, enhancement, and rehabilitation of the environment by teaching people how to grow food to improve health and well-being. The surplus of which will be distributed to those in need and/or charities and organisations.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Ensuring our work delivers our aims

We review our aims, objectives, and activities each year, held at a team day away at the end of January. This review looks at what we achieved and the outcomes of our work in the previous 9 months. The review looks at the success of each key activity and the benefits they have brought to those groups of people we are set up to help. The review also helps us ensure our aim, objectives and activities remained focused on our stated purposes. We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aim and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

The focus of our work

Our main objectives for the year continued to be the advancement of education related to teaching people food growing skills and distributing food to those in need.

The strategies we used to meet these objectives included:

- *Developing skill sharing workshops to help people learn about Food Growing Skills.*
- *To host volunteer sessions in our Secret Garden 1 and 2 sites.*
- *To consolidate our work at Feed our Community and settling into our new premises, while building our volunteer base so that our food programme can continue to distribute food to beneficiaries.*
- *Launch our Gatherers preserving programme to produce and distribute food from surplus*
- *Launch our composting programme to compost waste and demonstrate its importance to a healthy food growing ecosystem*
- *Develop our bee keeping workshops and mentoring programme.*

Feed Our Community (Jun 2021 – March 2022)

Feed our Community is our food distribution project continuing the great work of Boscombe Community Fridge. The project collects surplus food from supermarkets, cafes, home growers and allotments.

The 30+ dedicated volunteers work 7 days per week to collect, sort and supply food to those in need. Now based at the St Georges food centre in Boscombe, the project is known for putting out food and hundreds come by each week to collect.

The Feed our Community van is being used constantly to collect surplus food and other volunteers are out in their cars collecting surplus food too. However, with extra fuel costs, this is more challenging than ever.

In November 2021 we changed from home deliveries, prevalent during the Covid 19 pandemic, to beneficiaries collecting their weekly boxes from our food centre only, unless in exceptional circumstances.

Since the start of 2022, food donations from shops declined drastically in quantity and quality. To balance out the shortfall and to meet the rising demand for food for our beneficiaries, we started collaborating with other groups and individuals who are actively involved in collecting surplus food across the conurbation. Through this collaboration, we were able to engage more shops to support us. We are now signed up with Sainsburys, M&S as well as our usual partners such as Aldi, Lidl, Tesco, Co-op, Greggs and other smaller, independent businesses.

Examples of those people that benefit are vulnerable individuals, single parent families, elderly, large families, those with mental health issues and/or substance abuse and low income households. Many of the volunteers are also beneficiaries and our Feed our Community project team encourages everyone who can to get involved, building a more confident and resilient community.

Skills and Learning Workshops (Jun 2021 – March 2022)
Educational workshops typically take place at the Secret Garden. From the workshops we aim to equip people with the knowledge they need to then grow their own fruit and vegetables at home, with the ultimate ambition of helping the community become self-sufficient. Our skills and learning programme includes one-off Saturday morning workshops to members of the public and ongoing volunteer training workshops, delivered during weekday volunteer sessions.

Saturday morning workshops are aimed at adults and older children aged 11 years and above. The workshops start with an introduction to the theory, followed by a practical session in which participants practice their new skills. After the practical session, there is a Q&A session with suggested home activities and resources to follow up what the participants have been learning about. There is usually something to take home – a detailed handout, seeds, plug plants or harvested food.

Every month we run a Beginners Growing Skills workshop, delivered by our Skills and Learning Coordinator. This covers all the basic skills to grow food at home, from sowing seeds to harvesting. We usually include a seasonal focus, depending on the time of year, such as growing windowsill microgreens in winter and starting a new raised bed in the spring.

We also regularly host guest facilitators to run workshops on more specialist subjects that support growing food. In the period of this report, topics have included:

- Wildlife Gardening
- Gardening for Hedgehogs
- Beekeeping for beginners
- Home composting, wormeries and natural plant feeds

Our fortnightly volunteer training sessions go into further depth on seasonal topics to share skills and support growing at the Secret Garden. These have included topics such as:

- Rainwater irrigation
- Chicken Care
- Hugelkultur gardening
- DIY natural fertilisers and pest management
- No-dig gardening

We also hold twice-weekly growing workshops in some community raised beds at a nearby public park called Churchill Gardens. These sessions run on Tuesday and Friday mornings as part of the ASPIRE project. The participants are learning food growing skills with our Outreach Coordinator, as part of a wider program to improve their physical health and get back into work.

We have also held family gardening sessions on some Saturday afternoons to encourage the whole family, young and old, to explore, learn practical skills and connect with where their food comes from.

Volunteer sessions (Jun 2021 – March 2022)
Our garden volunteer sessions run throughout the whole year on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9am to 1pm.

These volunteer sessions at The Secret Garden provide several key services for our community.

- Growing local, seasonal, chemical-free food to give out to those in need, through our food distribution service (Feed Our Community);
- demonstrating simple, regenerative techniques for growing a wide variety of crops that can be replicated in back gardens;
- providing the skills needed for our community to grow their own food and everything that supports this (e.g. composting, wildlife gardening, beekeeping);
- nurturing a community of people who come to learn and share their own skills and experience.

Monday and Friday sessions are inclusive and open to all. They attract people with a range of ages, abilities, nationalities, backgrounds, beliefs and life circumstances, representative of our diverse area. Garden activities vary with the season and are catered to the interests, skills and ability of our volunteers. They include sowing, weeding, planting, harvesting, watering, seed saving, chicken care as well as DIY, creating wildlife habitats, composting, painting and developing new growing spaces. We hold an advanced volunteer skills training session twice a month. As well as helping our volunteers develop new skills, these sessions greatly contribute to their physical and mental health. There is always time for a hot drink and chat, usually with cakes and snacks contributed by our volunteers or staff.

During Wednesday sessions we hold meetings, undertake DIY and project work, and a smaller number of key volunteers carry out essential watering, harvesting and chicken care.

Little Gardeners Stay & Play Sessions (Jun 2021 – March 2022)
Every Thursday morning at the Secret Garden we run an urban food growing and wildlife gardening group for under 7s and their adult carers. In weekly 90 minute sessions, children take part in a variety of play-based activities based on growing organic, seasonal food and conserving wildlife habitats. These include digging, watering, weeding, sowing seeds, harvesting food, pond-dipping, plant and bug identification, making insect habitats, chicken care, craft activities, play-kitchens and reading books related to nature and food growing. There are always hot/cold drinks and healthy snacks available for adults and children.

Parents often comment on the calm, playful and friendly atmosphere. New friendships and connections are formed and we have families signing up to our projects as a result of coming to the Little Gardeners play sessions.

As well as the activities that are laid out, all children and adults are encouraged to freely explore and enjoy our beautiful walled Secret Garden, complete with a sheltered outdoor classroom/kitchen area, wildlife pond, chicken run and polytunnel.

Our aim for the sessions is to initiate a positive lifelong connection with the outdoors, soil, plant life, chickens, wildlife and where our food comes from, to learn through play and to respect and take care of each other and our planet.

We run the Little Gardeners sessions every week in all weather conditions (apart from dangerously high winds and thunderstorms!). Our measurable outcomes are that 90% of adult attendees report that a) their children are more comfortable playing outside in nature, and b) are more familiar with where their food comes from, as a result of attending our Little Gardeners sessions.

We have the capacity for 15 families in the Secret Garden per Little Gardeners session. We have trained 5 new volunteers from our local community to help run the sessions, helping them gain skills and work experience.

Grounded Bees (Jun 2021 – March 2022)
We keep beehives on the roof of the Sovereign Shopping Centre. We also keep a beehive at our Secret Garden 2 for educational purposes. Sadly during the year we experienced vandalism of some of the beehives.

We run adult and junior beekeeping experiences which allow individuals to get a 'bees' eye view of the hive both inside and out, learn about the different bees within the colony and their roles and see the bees at work. Individuals who attend get lots of hands-on experience with the bees, learning how they work together to thrive and produce honey.

We recruited volunteers to commit to a few years of supporting our bee-keeping programme. These volunteers became a facilitator/mentor of some of our beehives, to expand our produce and support the local eco system.

Community Meals (June 2021 – March 2022)
We host regular community food gatherings to share food and time, inspire, connect and enjoy the Secret Garden space. Sometimes these are bring and share meals, sometimes there is food provided for people to enjoy.

Grounded Growers

There are so many benefits to growing your own food: -

- It helps people to eat well
- It helps people to connect with other growers, swapping seeds and surplus
- It gets us active and outside in the fresh air
- It's good for physical and mental health
- Growing food can save money

We have developed these links by partnering with local CIC, Your Planet Doctors, to develop a project funded by Abri Housing Association. The "Grow Your Own Rainbow Garden" project enabled a team of 10 volunteers to install 25 raised beds in Abri residents' gardens on the Beaufort Road housing estate in Southbourne in June 2021.

Community Composting

Community composting meets our objectives in many ways. By transforming food and garden waste into high quality compost we can improve the soil fertility in our community growing areas. Stronger, higher yielding, more nutritious food crops will grow out of this soil. The local soil, plant and wildlife ecosystems also greatly benefit. By making more compost locally, we also reduce the volume of compost that needs to be bought in and we reduce the volume of waste exported to be processed elsewhere or buried in landfill. Both benefits save us money, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and build community resilience.

On the education side, this project aims to share composting techniques and skills to the public, businesses, and schools, to encourage more people to make their own compost on site and spread the benefits further. This will be done through workshops and composting site tours.

Finally, we hope to make this project replicable so that we can support other areas set up similar schemes.

Section D Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Overview
Development of the charity has been a major achievement. The fast growth of the charity secured a large National Lottery Community Fund to cover 60% of our core costs over 5 years. The paid and volunteer team has also expanded. The Trustee team has developed too adding 3 new Trustees, with some useful skills added to ensure the charity operates effectively.

Grounded Gardens
Secret Garden
The Secret Garden has been improved in a number of ways over the last year. We received funds from Talbot Village Trust to build our new outdoor kitchen and learning space, known as the Deck. This has already proved an asset to the garden, allowing volunteers to stay dry and socialise as well as providing a space for Children's Stay and Play participants to gather and engage in activities under cover.

The new chicken area and edible forest garden has also been started, providing a point of interest and learning for all.

Our volunteer sessions have had an average of 23 people attending throughout the year.

Nursery Garden
We have a farm tenancy agreement with BCP Council, to lease a second unused garden, that we call the Nursery Garden. This is home to a new educational beehive, which has already been visited by groups of children and adults. This space also facilitates storage for our compost and home growers' resources.

Time and energy has been spent clearing the garden, and reconfiguring it in line with our plan designed by our inhouse permaculture expert.

Churchill Gardens (Jan 22 – March 22)
In November 2021 we had conversations with the 'Aspire' project team as to how we could get involved and support them with their well-being programme which aimed to help people boost their self-esteem and improve their well-being. The programme had a 'grow your own, eat your own and sell your own' ethos at its core. So, in January 2022 large, raised beds were installed at Churchill Gardens for local people to grow, cook, eat and distribute a range of vegetables and herbs. We then started weekly Food Growing sessions for Aspire participants and Grounded Community volunteers to learn skills for growing food. These workshops included sowing seeds, moving seedlings into small pots to grow on, planting out young plants, weeding, watering, harvesting and composting.

Grounded Growers
We formed a collaboration partnership with local CIC 'Your Planet Doctors' to develop hubs of home growers, which was funded by Abri Housing Association. We installed 25 raised bed planters, made from pallet collars, in residents gardens on the Beaufort Road housing estate and gave them starter

packs to support their food growing. 'Your Planet Doctors' also funded £700 to produce a support video, a 30 page beginners food growing guide and run some workshops for these residents.

By installing raised bed planters in gardens, we are enabling those with space in their homes or places of work to create beds for growing and also have the enjoyment of watching them grow, whilst empowering them to begin their own journey of growing food.

Feed Our Community

Having secured a permanent base in the local Food Bank building, this project has now developed from a Community Fridge into a high functioning surplus food box scheme. We have been feeding on average over 500 people each week, with 30 volunteers operating daily, collecting, sorting and packing food for vulnerable and low-income households.

Many of our volunteers are also beneficiaries of the boxes and derive a great sense of achievement, belonging and pride from their involvement, which builds confidence that often leads to an improvement in their mental health and overall well-being.

We have managed to purchase a lot of necessary equipment and generate operational funds to secure this project.

FEED OUR COMMUNITY (GROUNDED COMMUNITY)				
Date	Food In From	Weight In(kg)	Customer Numbers	Additional Info
Jun 21	Various	4070.32	732	Food boxes delivered during Covid
Jul 21	Various	3380.39	761	Food boxes delivered during Covid
Aug 21	Various	3044.30	666	Food boxes delivered during Covid
Sep 21	Various	3378.85	521	Pick up only from food hub
Oct 21	Various	2930.69	515	
Nov 21	Various	2518.35	520	
Dec 21	Various	4982.34	512	
Jan 22	Various	2861.59	495	
Feb 22	Various	2916.54	492	
Mar 22	Various	3149.54	454	

Grounded Gatherers

We began our preserving and produce making sessions, running 25 sessions in this period, garnering support from our community. We produced the following: -

- 70 bags of dehydrated fruit and veg
- 52 jars of preserve
- 85 kg of fruit and veg chopped and preserved or given out
- 45 pasties
- 10 litres of soup
- 24 large cakes
- 44 litres of apple cider vinegar.

Community Composting

At the Secret Garden we've always made our own compost, and since 2014 we had been looking into buying a rocket composter to set up a community composting scheme. In 2020 started a small-scale trial scheme in which a few residents brought their food waste to be processed in our wormeries built

Section D Achievements and performance

from recycled car tyres. In autumn 2020 we received a donated rocket composter, capable of processing 700 litres of food waste per week!

Since that date, we have worked closely with the Sovereign shopping centre in Boscombe to get the rocket composter set up. We now have a superb site on the roof of the shopping centre where we use the rocket composter to process food leftovers from Boscombe's market, cafes and local families.

After setting up the composter through the summer, in Sept '21 our team of two operators started to collect waste from 12 locations in Boscombe and surrounding areas. This included cafes, churches, a hotel, a bakery, a charity food project and hair from a barber's shop.

So far, the rocket composter has been operational for 231 days, in which we have processed: -

- Over 528 full caddies of food waste, coffee grounds, wood chips, leaves, garden waste and hair have been collected and processed;
- 4.4 tonnes of food waste have been diverted from incineration or landfill and transformed into compost; and
- 2.7 tonnes (or 5.5 cubic metres) of high-quality compost has been produced for use in local community food growing projects.

Grounded Bees

Our beekeeper has continued to lead a group of 8 Bee Keeping Mentees and run 15 sessions. We have two bee colonies on the roof of the Sovereign Shopping Centre and have recently been gifted another 3 from our partnership working with Bee Mission.

The 2021 – 2022 period was not a good year for bees. We only got about 3 kg of honey compared to 65kg last year. Many other beekeepers experienced the same.

Community Meals

Our food gatherings have been a huge success with the local community and our volunteers. We have been able to share fresh and nutritious food with our community. We have had between 30 and 50 people, families and individuals at the gatherings.

In October 2021 we held our first shared meal in our new outdoor kitchen classroom with around 40 people in attendance, campfire songs and a talk from one of Trustees remembering our ancestors and being grateful for the season of rest and harvest.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The trustees discussed the following factors in arriving at their reserves policy:

1. It would be prudent to keep three months running costs in reserves in case of an unexpected drop in income/funding so as to be able to cover current salaries and
2. To be able to provide the charity with adequate financial stability and the means for it to meet its charitable objectives for the foreseeable future.

It is the policy of the Charity to hold in reserves the equivalent of three months general core costs or a minimum of £10K to cover our regular monthly outgoings of which currently includes our three staff management salaries. This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure a minimum reserve is maintained to accommodate any financial and/or operational changes such as the recruitment of additional staff.

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);

Grants Received during June 2021 – March 2022

We primarily relied on funding from grant applications during this period, summarised below.

Grant Body	Amount
Aspire	£ 3600.00
National Lottery Community Fund – Reaching Communities	£ 16,902.75
BH Coastal Lottery	£ 200.50
BCP Winter Food Fund	£ 7000.00
Co-op Community Fund	£ 1872.65
Talbot Village Trust	£ 14,235.00
The Tree Council	£ 419.54
Crowdfunder	£ 5000.00
Paypal Donations	£ 1256.81

Section F Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	
Full name(s)	John Hanson
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair
Date	16/01/23

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	Grounded Community		
On accounts for the year ended	**31st March 2022**	**Charity no (if any)**	1187272
Set out on pages	Three and four (remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31st March 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 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

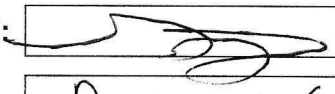
Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:		**Date:**	16/1/23
Name:	ANTHONY KELLY		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	A.A.T. GROUP FINANCIAL CONTROLLER		
Address:	37 Sherwood Avenue Poole, BH14 8DH		

Section B	Disclosure
	Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).
Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.	

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

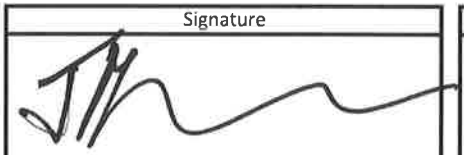
Grounded Community	1187272	CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 1st June 2021	To	Period end date 31st March 2022

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts *(Note 1)*					
Grants and other donations	9,265	38,679	-	**47,944**	84,360
Fundraising (crowdfunder)	5,000	-	-	**5,000**	-
Total receipts	14,265	38,679	-	**52,944**	84,360
A3 Payments *(Note 2)*					
Administration	1,647	256		**1,903**	
Core operational costs	11,263	7,351	-	**18,613**	622
Running costs					343
Expenses from petty cash	151			**151**	
Grounded projects: running costs	10,549	29,953	-	**40,501**	59,241
Total payments	23,609	37,559	-	**61,169**	60,206
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 9,344	1,120	-	- **8,224**	24,154
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds at last year end	12,293	11,861	-	**24,154**	-
Cash funds this year end *(Note 3)*	2,949	12,981	-	**15,930**	24,154

	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
Signed by Chair of trustees on behalf of all trustees		JOHN MANSON	16/01/23

NOTES

Note 1 INCOME

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
The Tree Council	-	420	420
Talbot Village Trust	-	14,325	14,325
DCF Winter	-	7,000	7,000
TNL 22 quarter 1	-	16,903	16,903
Aspire	3,600	-	3,600
Co-op	1,873	-	1,873
Coastal Bid	32	-	32
Coastal Lottery	241	-	241
Donations workshop	712	-	712
Donations Paypal	1,257	-	1,257
Other income	1,583	-	1,583
Grants and other donations	9,297	38,647	47,944
Crowd Funding	5,000	-	5,000
Total income	14,297	38,647	52,944

NOTES (continued)

Note 2 EXPENSE

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	118	-	118
Book-keeper	217	25	242
Accountant	175	-	175
Website and Subscriptions	135	-	135
Insurance	990	231	1,222
Email/hosting	12	-	12
Administration Total	1,647	256	1,903
Core charity	11,263	7,351	18,613
Expenses from cash in hand	151		151
Projects	10,549	29,953	40,501
ASPIRE	2,544	-	2,544
Bee-zz	-	5,552	5,552
Compost	221	1,879	2,100
Education Programme	2,411	1,599	4,011
Feed Our Community	2,780	3,808	6,587
Gatherers (Preservation)	65	1,317	1,382
Growers	550	-	550
Kitchen Classroom	-	15,798	15,798
Secret Garden 1	1,078	-	1,078
Stay and Play	900	-	900
Total	23,609	37,559	61,169

Note 3 CASH	Cash at bank	Cash in hand	Total
Opening balance	23,778	376	24,154
Closing balance	15,705	*224.95*	**£15,930.11**
Net movement over period	-£8,073	-£151	-£8,224

GROUNDED COMMUNITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1187272

Accounts

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
From	09	01	2020	**To**	31	05	2021

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Grounded Community
Other names charity is known by	Grounded
Registered charity number (if any)	1187272
Charity's principal address	Flat 2, 6 Undercliff Road,
	Bournemouth,
	Dorset
	Postcode BH5 1BL

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	John Hanson	Chair		N/A
2	John Richards			N/A
3	Camilla Hawley			N/A
4	Chris Swain			N/A

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
N/A	

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Michael French, Jonathan Watson Short, Karen Everett

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	CIO Foundation Model
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Every trustee must be appointed [for a term of [three] years] by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

Our charity's purposes as set out in the objects contained in the CIO Foundation Constitution are to: -

To advance the education of the public in subjects related to sustainable development and the protection, enhancement and rehabilitation of the environment by teaching people how to grow food to improve health and well-being. The surplus of which will be distributed to those in need and/or charities and organisations.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Ensuring our work delivers our aims

We review our aims, objectives and activities each year. This review looks at what we achieved and the outcomes of our work in the previous 17 months since becoming a charity. The review looks at the success of each key activity and the benefits they have brought to those groups of people we are set up to help. The review also helps us ensure our aim, objectives and activities remained focused on our stated purposes. We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aim and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

The focus of our work

Our main objectives for the year continued to be the advancement of education related to teaching people food growing skills and distributing food to those in need.

The strategies we used to meet these objectives included:

- *Developing skill sharing workshops to help people learn about Food Growing Skills.*
- *To host volunteer sessions in our Secret Garden 1 and 2 sites.*
- *To consolidate our work at Feed our Community and settling into our new premises, while building our volunteer base so that our food programme can continue to distribute food to beneficiaries.*

Feed Our Community (Jan 2020 – May 2021)

In March 2020 Feed our Community responded in an immediate way to the food crisis as a result of the pandemic and a team of 30 regularly delivered food from surplus hotels/ supermarkets/ restaurants etc to local people who were shielding or struggling for food in the local area. This included families, single people, the elderly and those in refuges. As the summer harvest season came we were able to supplement the food boxes with fresh grown produce from the garden and included "how to Cook" cards with the boxes so that local people could make best use of more unusual vegetables such as Jerusalem Artichoke. Foodboxes are now supplied with Grounded produce on a weekly basis for 7 months of the year. When a new person signs up for the food parcel a letter goes out with their first box explaining about where surplus food comes from and how we recycle it safely with recommendations for clients.

After the first lockdown lifted and many of our volunteers went back to work we built the volunteer base back up to a sustainable level and moved into our permanent residence with the Bournemouth Foodbank and as result

increased distribution from two to three days a week. Beneficiaries have of Feed our Community are encouraged to help at the project to better understand the flow of food and some have contributed their time and helped at the Secret Garden workshops and surveys from beneficiaries of the project has better informed the skill sharing workshops at the garden.

Skill Sharing Workshops (September 2020 to May 2021)
In September 2020, our newly appointed education coordinator launched a program of skills workshops. Our basic Food Growing Skills workshop now runs every month and provides the basic skills and knowledge to support our community to grow their own food at home. We also run workshops on specific topics that directly support home food growing, reconnecting with nature and regenerating local ecosystems. These include mushroom growing, beekeeping, composting, hedgehog-friendly gardening and forest gardening. In the period covered by this report we have put on a total of 25 workshops, attended by 307 people. Sessions are facilitated by our education coordinator or a visiting expert from a local organisation (Dorset Wildlife Trust, New Milton Hedgehog Rescue, Jurassic Fungi, Big Blue Play).

2020-21 has been a difficult period for running public events. With a COVID 19 risk assessment in place and following government guidelines, we have had to restrict participant numbers and cancel all public events during the national lockdowns before and after Christmas. During these periods we went online, filming 3 workshops, making them available online. We also ran 3 online zoom Q&As with a panel of experts and published a series of 3 'windowsill gardening' tutorials through our social media channels, reaching over 2,800 people on Facebook and Instagram.

Our fortnightly Friday Volunteer Training sessions started in February 2021. These provide our regular garden volunteers with advanced skills for their own progression, team-building skills and improve our growing systems for feeding the community. Topics have included no-dig growing, wildlife ponds and hügelkultur.

In October we started a collaboration with Big Blue Play, a pop-up community play organisation. Between October and April we put on 5 outdoor nature play sessions for under 7s and their adult carers. This has since evolved into a weekly Thursday morning stay & play group with a loyal following and steady source of donations. It has brought in a different demographic of young local parents and carers to the garden. Through play, we nurture a love of the soil, plants, insects, chickens and local organic food amongst our youngest garden visitors. It has also introduced many adults to the charity who have since become regular volunteers and workshop participants.

Volunteer sessions (January 2020 to May 2021)
Our garden volunteer sessions run throughout the whole year on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9am to 1pm.

These volunteer sessions at The Secret Garden provide several key services for our community.

- Growing local, seasonal, chemical-free food to give out to those in need, through our food distribution service (Feed Our Community);

- demonstrating simple, regenerative techniques for growing a wide variety of crops that can be replicated in back gardens;
- providing the skills needed for our community to grow their own food and everything that supports this (e.g. composting, wildlife gardening, beekeeping);
- nurturing a community of people who come to learn, share their own skills and experience.

As a key service, volunteer sessions have continued throughout lockdown periods but with special measures in place and restrictions on numbers and garden practices.

Monday and Friday sessions are inclusive and open to all. They attract people with a range of ages, abilities, nationalities, backgrounds, beliefs and life circumstances, representative of our diverse area. Garden activities vary with the season and are catered to the interests, skills and ability of our volunteers. They include sowing, weeding, planting, harvesting, watering, seed saving, chicken care as well as DIY, creating wildlife habitats, composting, painting and developing new growing spaces. We hold an advanced volunteer skills training session twice a month. As well as helping our volunteers develop new skills, these sessions greatly contribute to their physical and mental health. There is always time for a hot drink and chat, usually with cakes and snacks contributed by our volunteers or staff.

During Wednesday sessions we hold meetings, undertake DIY and project work, and a smaller number of key volunteers carry out essential watering, harvesting and chicken care.

In response to the demand we have also started a monthly weekend family session aimed at local families with children and who cannot attend on weekdays.

In February we started a new volunteer program called Grounded Facilitators. Facilitators are volunteers with additional responsibilities, such as leading small working groups, assisting with running workshops, managing certain areas of the garden and leading training sessions. The program is designed to give our most committed volunteers more autonomy, 'ownership' of the garden, extra training and new skills. It has improved our growing systems and enabled us to help more people learn to grow. We currently have 4 facilitators on the garden team and are looking to expand this number.

Section D Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Grounded Community began to apply for charity status early 2019. Through much debate and conversation, and communication with the charity commission, we arrived at an agreed aims and objectives for the charity.

We were granted charity status on January 9th 2020. We then spent the year consolidating our concepts, projects and plans into a strategy and action template.

In February 2020, we pulled together an action plan and focus chart based on our projects and the way we wanted to support the community to develop. We talked to volunteers, trustees, our founder and others to pull together thoughts and ideas.

What we arrived at were 4 clear areas of focus and 6 projects.

Below I will outline a summary of these and the progress we have made in each case.

Grounded Gardens
Through the past 7 years the project has helped maintain a secret garden. Over the past year this site has really been developed and plans made and progressed to add features to it. This has included, on site irrigation, removal of one plastic Poly tunnel and in place and edible forest planted with design elements. Funding achieved to build a 'Deck' outdoor learning and kitchen space.

This garden has also been attended by many more volunteers than ever, at least 50 per week. A skills and education programme established for all ages. Including Nature play sessions, food growing workshops, volunteer training and community events.

We have further established a second Secret garden with a store shed, new poly tunnel, mushroom growing area, compost store and an educational bee hive.
We also took on a neighbour's garden as an overflow for our food growing programme.

Grounded Growers
In 2019 we piloted a home growers' concept in 8 private gardens and 2 commercial gardens. The result was good, but we could not sustain that level of involvement to increase numbers.

Through some collaboration in 2020 into 2021 we managed to run a pilot scheme with another community group to place 30 raised planters in housing association gardens. This concept was really positive and we are now seeking to create a home growers scheme replicating this model. We realised that we needed to offer more support to residents, and so will now aim to add the word 'Support' into our charitable objectives. This way we can offer further services to the public for their benefit.

Feed Our Community
In early 2020 we adopted a community fridge project within the charity. When the pandemic hit this project could not function, so we managed to establish a temporary space in Boscombe and vehicle to deliver food during Lockdown 1 to those shielding and in need of food locally.

In Oct '20 we moved into shared facilities with the local Foodbank, our new permanent home for this project.

Each week we do 63 pickups from stores across Bournemouth, Ringwood and New Milton. Food boxes go out 3 times a week on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. 6 days a week the hub is manned to bring sort the collections and ensure safe storing of food.

At Christmas we worked in Partnership to distribute 60 fresh food Christmas hampers to local families and individuals. Distributions increased from twice weekly to four days a week to ensure that food is distributed as quickly as possible as well as increasing the fresh food intake from Secret Garden and another local food growing project.

In total on average since Jan 2020 until May 2021 on average about 265 people a week have benefitted from food from Feed our Community and approx 55 tonnes of surplus and grown food has been collected and redistributed. At the height of the pandemic 600 people a week were receiving food and two to three tonnes a week was being collected.

Grounded Gatherers
This is a new project funded by the national Lottery. WE purchased £8000 of preserving and food preparation items. The plan is to develop a process of gathering surplus food and gluts from many locations and creating with it meals and consumable products, to go out in the box scheme or to feed the community through canteen style meals.

Community Composting Scheme
The concept for this was talked through in 2014. We were offered a Rocket Composter in 2020 and we transported it to the local shopping centre where a contract has been agreed to run it as a community composting scheme. The project will commence in July 2021, once full installation has been made. We are partnering with the shopping centre and have raised £4000 to set this up.

The food boxes and volunteering at FOC was also a lifeline to many in need. We have been able to support these boxes with fresh produce from our gardens on a weekly basis for 7 months of the year. We have also partnered with two other food box charities which have been sharing produce to benefit each other.

Grounded Bees
Having kept bees in the project for 3 years. This year we have been able to employ a beekeeper, set up a new education hive. Gain money from 2 crowd funding activities, to purchase 20 bee suits and further hives. We have been creating Bee Experiences and a mentoring scheme. We will soon be delivering children's workshops and experiences too.

Website
We created a new website which was launched in May '21.

www.groundedcommunity.co.uk

There are many other tangible contacts, connections, ripple effects that are hard to quantify in a report. Some of these are by-products of the activities we have run and not the main objectives but have huge community and personal benefit to those involved.

Many volunteers anecdotally commented how supportive the charity is for their emotional wellbeing and mental health. Motivationally benefiting many people, who have been home working or out of work. During the Pandemic, our Secret Garden space provided a haven of outdoor space small socially distanced group to gather together and help tend the garden.

Grounded Van
We were also donated a van and got it serviced and branded and fully used by the team.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The trustees discussed the following factors in arriving at their reserves policy:

1. It would be prudent to keep three months running costs in reserves in case of an unexpected drop in income/funding so as to be able to cover current salaries and
2. To be able to provide the charity with adequate financial stability and the means for it to meet its charitable objectives for the foreseeable future.

It is the policy of the Charity to hold in reserves the equivalent of three months general core costs or a minimum of £10K to cover our regular monthly outgoings of which currently includes our three staff management salaries. This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure a minimum reserve is maintained to accommodate any financial and/or operational changes such as the recruitment of additional staff.

The Charity at present has £10,000 in reserves.

Section F Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	John Hanson	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	

Date	17/12/21

Charity Registration Number 1187272

Grounded Community

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the Year ended 31st May 2021

Mrs Sue Wintle
Independent Examiner
27 Bascott Road
Bournemouth
Dorset
BH11 8RJ

Grounded Community

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Independent Examiner's Report	3
Statement of Finance Activities	4
Balance Sheet	5
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Grounded Community

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	John Hanson Camilla Hawley John Richards Chris Swain
Principal Office	Flat 2 6 Undercliffe Road Boscombe BH5 1BL
Charity Registration Number	1187272
Independent Examiner	Mrs Sue Wintle Independent Examiner 27 Bascott Road Bournemouth BH11 8RJ

Grounded Community

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

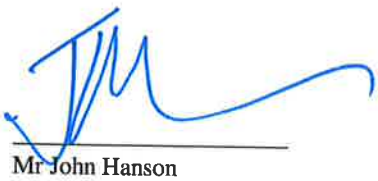
The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statement in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial period which gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles In the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safe-guarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the charity and signed on its behalf by



Mr John Hanson
Trustee

Date 25/10/21

Grounded Community

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Grounded Community

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st May 2021 which are set out on pages 4 - 10

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner
The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and than an independent examination is needed.
It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act:
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report
My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement

Independent Examiner's Statement
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Sue Wintle
Independent Examiner
Association of Accounting Technicians

27 Bascott Road
Bournemouth
Dorset
BH11 8RJ

Date 25-10-2021

Grounded Community
Statement of Financial Activities
For the Year ended 31st May2021

	Note	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Total 31 May 2021
Income and Endowments from					
Donations and Legacies	1	**22,457**		**61,903**	**84,360**
Expenditure on Chartable Activities					
Administration	2	622	-	-	**622**
Running Costs	3	343	-	-	**343**
Feed our Community	4	673	-	24,047	**24,720**
Grounded Garden	4	7,941	-	19,630	**27,571**
Grounded Bee-zz	4	70	-	632	**702**
Grounded Compost	4	230	-	-	**230**
Edible Forest	4	285	-	5,733	**6,018**
	5	**10,164**		**50,042**	**60,206**
Net Fund Movement		**12,293**		**11,861**	**24,154**
Gross Transfers between funds - In		-	10,000	-	**10,000**
Gross Transfers between funds -Out		(10,000)		-	**(10,000)**
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total funds brought forward		-	-	-	-
Total funds carried forward	6	**2,293**	**10,000**	**11,861**	**24,154**

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above period.

Grounded Community

Notes to the Financial Statements

	Note	31st May 2021
Current Assets		
Cash at Bank		23,778
Cash in Hand		376
		24,154
Funds of the Charity:		
Restricted Funds		11,861
Designated		10,000
Unrestricted Funds		2,293
	6	**24,154**

The financial statements on Pages 4 - 10 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on

and signed on their behalf by:

Mr John Hanson
Trustee

Grounded Community
Notes to the financial Statements for the year ended 31st May 2021

INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Donations and Legacies				2021
Armstrong		500	-	**500**
BH Lottery		399	-	**399**
Bournemouth Coast Bid		-	1,940	**1,940**
Co-op		2,231	-	**2,231**
Crossover Funds		300	-	**300**
Crowdfunding		14,990	-	**14,990**
Donations and Legacies		1,900	-	**1,900**
Dorset Community Foundation		-	14,760	**14,760**
Fundraising		54	-	**54**
Grounded Bees		-	5,825	**5,825**
Grounded Gardens		-	430	**430**
Hall and Woodhouse		-	1,200	**1,200**
JP Morgan		-	1,500	**1,500**
National Lottery		-	36,248	**36,248**
Rotary		2,083	-	**2,083**
Total Income	1	**22,457**	**61,903**	**84,360**

EXPENDITURE ON		Unrestr'd	Restr'd	Total
Charitable Activities				
Administration and Trading				2021
Administration		174	-	174
Bookkeeping		198	-	198
Insurance		140	-	140
Postage		10	-	10
Website		100	-	100
	2	**622**	-	**622**
Running Costs				
Equipment		129	-	129
Refreshments		5	-	5
Repairs & Maintenance		209	-	209
	3	**343**	-	**343**
Projects				
Feed our Community		673	24,047	24,719
Grounded Garden		7,941	19,630	27,570
Grounded Bee-zz		70	632	702
Grounded Compost		230	-	230
Edible Forest		285	5,733	6,018
	4	**9,198**	**50,042**	**59,240**
Total Charitable Activities	5	**10,164**	**50,042**	**60,206**

Grounded Community
Notes to the financial Statements for the year ended 31st May 2021

Trustees Remuneration and Expenses
One Trustee received any remuneration from the charity during the year, with the consent of Charities Commission.

Staff Costs
The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2,021
	£
Wages and salaries	24,200

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

Grounded Community
Notes to the financial Statements for the year ended 31st May 2021

INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
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Total Charitable Activities	**5**	**10,164**	**50,042**	**60,206**

Grounded Community
Notes to the financial Statements for the year ended 31st May 2021

Trustees Remuneration and Expenses

No Trustee, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

Staff Costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2,021
	£
Wages and salaries	24,200

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

Grounded Community
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st May 2021

Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation

	Note 6				
Fund Movement					
	01.06.20	**Incoming**	**Outgoing**	**Transfers**	**31.05.21**
Asda	-	-	-	-	-
Grounded Bee-zz	-	5,825	-	-	**5,825**
Bournemouth Coast Bid	-	1,940	-	-	**1,940**
Dorset Community Foundation	-	12,260	(12,260)	-	**-**
Dorset Community Foundation Wessex Water	-	2,500	(902)	-	**1,598**
Grounded Gardens	-	430		-	**430**
Hall and Woodhouse	-	1,200	-	-	**1,200**
JP Morgan	-	1,500	(631)	-	**869**
National Lottery	-	36,248	(36,248)	-	**-**
Total Restricted	-	61,903	(50,042)	-	**11,861**
Designated	-			10,000	**10,000**
General Funds	-	22,457	(10,164)	(10,000)	**2,293**
	-	**84,360**	**(60,206)**	**-**	**24,154**

£10,000 was transferred to designated funds as a reserve which presents three months expenditure for the charity to help meet obligations in months when there may be no cash flow/funds