

# BENSHAM GROVE COMMUNITY CENTRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1188101

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2020-02-21

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

## Contact

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**Address** Bensham Grove Community Centre  
Sidney Grove  
Gateshead  
NE8 2XD

**Phone** 01914336450

**Email** [CHRISOTOOLE@BENSHAMGROVE.ORG.UK](mailto:CHRISOTOOLE@BENSHAMGROVE.ORG.UK)

**Website** <https://www.benshamgrove.org.uk/>

## Activities

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**Objects:** 1) TO FURTHER OR BENEFIT THE RESIDENTS OF THE BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD AND THE SURROUNDING AREA, WITHOUT DISTINCTION OF SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, RACE OR OF POLITICAL, RELIGIOUS OR OTHER OPINIONS BY ASSOCIATING TOGETHER THE SAID RESIDENTS AND THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES, VOLUNTARY AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS IN A COMMON EFFORT TO ADVANCE EDUCATION AND TO PROVIDE FACILITIES IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE FOR RECREATION AND LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR THE RESIDENTS. IN FURTHERANCE OF THESE OBJECTS BUT NOT OTHERWISE, THE TRUSTEES SHALL HAVE POWER: TO ESTABLISH OR SECURE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMUNITY CENTRE AND TO MAINTAIN OR MANAGE OR CO-OPERATE WITH ANY STATUTORY AUTHORITY IN THE MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF SUCH A CENTRE FOR ACTIVITIES PROMOTED BY THE CHARITY IN FURTHERANCE OF THE ABOVE OBJECTS. 2) TO CONSERVE, PRESERVE AND IMPROVE FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT THE GRADE II LISTED BENSHAM GROVE AS A BUILDING OF HISTORIC INTEREST AND TO CARRY OUT ACTIVITIES WHICH ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE HISTORY AND HERITAGE OF THE BUILDING.

**Activities:** Bensham Grove Community Centre is a Grade II listed building and gardens, conserved by the trustees, of historical significance holding original Georgian and Arts and Crafts features. The Centre is a venue for community activities and groups to meet, it is a venue for Adult learning courses and workshops and it hosts events throughout the year to include the diverse community it serves.

## Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Recreation
- **Who:** Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LOCAL
- Gateshead

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£284,655	£289,261	-	-
2023-12-31	£223,973	£213,664	-	-
2022-12-31	£198,525	£151,367	-	-
2021-12-31	£108,254	£75,263	-	-
2020-12-31	£229,557	£231,346	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>SHIRLEY BROWN</b>	Chair	2020-02-21
Shirley Allen		2022-04-14
Susan Gaye Adamson		2020-02-21
VIKAS KUMAR		2020-02-21

**BENSHAM GROVE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1188101

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# Accounts

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**Bensham Grove Community Centre  
Registered Charity No. 1188101**

**Trustees' Report  
and  
Financial Statement  
for the year ended  
31 December 2024**

## Legal and Administrative Information

Name: **Bensham Grove Community Centre**

Charity no: 1188101

Structure: Unincorporated association governed by a constitution.

Trustees:

<i>Chair</i>	Shirley Brown
<i>Vice Chair</i>	Vikas Kumar
<i>Treasurer</i>	Angela Knox
<i>Secretary</i>	Shirley Allen
<i>Others</i>	Susan Adamson

Trustees are elected by the membership at each Annual General Meeting.

Address: Sidney Grove  
Bensham  
Gateshead NE8 2XD

Bankers: Lloyds  
15 West Street  
Gateshead NE8 1DP

Independent Examiner: Mark Thompson MAAT  
42 Lesbury Road  
Newcastle  
NE6 5LB

# Trustees' Annual Report

## Background

The Community Centre was established to provide a community venue for the benefit of people living in Bensham, Gateshead and the wider area. The Centre works with volunteers, local voluntary organisations, the local authority and other groups to provide opportunities and facilities to help improve the social and personal education, (including social cohesion) health and welfare, and recreational opportunities of local people.

The Centre became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in February 2020 changing its charitable status and governance. Its aims however remain similar, although the concierge of the Grade 2 listed building has been added to its objectives. The Centre held its AGM in July 2024, but elections were not required following the details set out in the constitution; new appointments are due 2024 from those members still in post.

The centre employs a full-time caretaker and a part-time cleaner. The Board continue to support the part time Community Centre Manager who is now supported by a part time administrator. The Centre also employs part time pottery technical staff and consultants as the pottery studio has increased its programme significantly during the year.

The Centre have been funded once again by Lankelly Chase charitable funds to employ a full time and part time Community Development workers ( Bridgebuilders) to work across the diverse communities in the area. This continues to be working well and brings a new audience to the project. ESOL courses, diverse social groups and refugee support groups have been further developed to support people from a wide range of cultures arrived in the area. The Centre was particularly busy during Ramadan and several organisations held Iftar events.

## Review of activities and performance

The Centre provides a wide range of activities, with a central focus remaining of adult education and learning. There are a wide variety of classes, groups, and activities available at the centre, ranging from Craft groups through to groups for older people, those that support the diverse community's and the adult education programmes. The Centre has good internet facilities which supports members and learners including on Basic Skills programmes. Job clubs, including some specific to neurodiversity, and voluntary sector/not for profit organisations hire rooms on an ad hoc basis, increasing the footfall and range of opportunities available. In 2024 the centre was able to support a great many people who had been affected and traumatised by the summer riots and some very specific social cohesion projects have been held with noteworthy results. There were more than 1000 participants every week using the Centre which is supported largely by volunteer input. The Centre has an arrangement with Gateshead Council learning Skills and the WEA in the provision of accommodation and support for adult learning courses.

The Main House of Centre which reopened in September 2013 following a highly successful Heritage Lottery Project is continuing to flourish and further develop. In 2022, the studio rooms which had opened in 2021, were fully occupied bringing sustainability to the centre. Plans to develop new stained-glass installations with funds from the Queens Jubilee Awards were developed. These works showed a splendid example of what community groups can achieve when they are determined and supported. All works within the centre are of exceptional standard and continue to be a highlight to visitors. During this year too, a book was written about the history of Bensham Grove and the families who lived here and those who donated the building to local people. This was a key step forward and a unique project for Bensham Grove and funds from the sale of the book continues to raise much appreciated funds for the Centre.

During this year we have been pleased to see the numbers of people involved with the centre increase. New staff and local projects have increased the number of organisations that are frequently using the project. The wonderful garden at the Centre remains to be well used and appreciated. The gardening group have continued to develop their Bee Garden and also have created a kitchen garden to show how they are developing their horticultural skills. The raised beds that were developed for local people to use are still used by a small number of local residents whose homes do not have gardens. We have been delighted to develop an Urban Physic Garden to support well-being and appreciation of the impact of working in outdoor spaces to address anxiety and stress. These initiatives have brought new interest and volunteers to the project keeping it a very important community hub valued by those near and far.

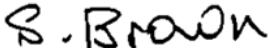
The Community Centre is used seven days a week from early morning till 9pm. There are a wide range of groups, classes and courses using the facilities. The project, continues to be used by a diverse range of people reflective of both the multi-cultural nature of the local community, and also by people with learning disabilities who enjoy being part of an open and inclusive community.

### **Risks, reserves and investments**

Staff carry out risk assessments on all our projects, and these are reviewed on a regular basis. This has been particularly important in terms of general safety. All funds not immediately required are held in interest-bearing accounts. The Centre has updated its financial procedures, safeguarding, Equality and Diversity and H&S documents over the last year and is working to update its current business plan.

### **Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements**

Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which comply with the regulations set out in the Charities Act 1993. The Trustees have elected to take advantage of the provisions that apply to small charities and have prepared a Receipts and Payments Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Signed:  .Chair, on behalf of the Trustees, date: 30th March 2025

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

Report to the trustees of

### Bensham Grove Community Centre

On accounts for the year ended

31 December 2024

Charity no 1188101

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The trustees of the organisation are responsible for the preparation of accounts; they consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an Independent Examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

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

**Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:
  - proper accounting records are kept (in accordance with section 130 of the Act); and
  - accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Signed:**



**Date: 29 April 2025**

**Name:**  
**Address:**

Mark Thompson MAAT  
42 Lesbury Road  
Newcastle  
NE6 5LB

**Bensham Grove Community Centre**  
**Receipts and payments account for the period**  
**1 January to 31 December 2024**

	Notes	2024 Unrestricted	2024 Restricted	2024 Total	2023 Total
<b>Income</b>					
Grants	2		78921	78921	109681
Rent and Room Hire		83307		83307	68177
Donations		1098		1098	583
Classes Fees		29465		29465	2080
Subscriptions		23815		23815	12970
Sales		2808		2808	4193
Reimbursements		256		256	860
Membership		1993		1993	1016
Bank Interest		2079		2079	861
Studio Hire		17240		17240	15900
BG Womens Group		1750		1750	2000
Contribution to Pottery Tech		14496		14496	3034
Pottery Fundraising		1645		1645	1329
Pottery Resources		25783		25783	1289
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>205734</b>	<b>78921</b>	<b>284655</b>	<b>223973</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Activities and Events					
Events		1323		1323	4186
Payments from Grants			93636	93636	74239
Dawn Brown Fund Grants			1647	1647	986
BG Womens Group		1000		1000	703
HLF Project		7830		7830	
Pottery Project		1620		1620	1191
Pottery Expenditure		18537		18537	9584
Equipment, Materials and Maintenance		11800		11800	16473
Transport/Volunteers Expenses		782		782	1348
Performing Rights Licence		240		240	231
Staff Wages	3	91512		91512	51414
Refreshment Sales		755		755	450
Management and Administration					
Gateshead Council (Running Costs)				0	0
Insurance		6816		6816	5582
Accountancy	4	810		810	765
Printing, Post & Stationery		634		634	125
Refuse Collection		572		572	286
Utilities		47742		47742	44715
Reimbursements		1894		1894	1218
General Administration		111		111	168
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>193978</b>	<b>95283</b>	<b>289261</b>	<b>213664</b>
Surplus for the period		11756	-16362	-4606	10309
Transfers between Funds		17409	-17409		
Balance at 1 January 2024		156569	68137	224706	214397
<b>Balance at 31 December 2024</b>		<b>185734</b>	<b>34366</b>	<b>220100</b>	<b>224706</b>

**Bensham Grove Community Centre  
Balance Sheet  
at 31 December 2024**

	Notes	2024	2023
<b>Current Assets Assets</b>			
Business instant access		277	274
Treasurer's account		64855	71533
Virgin Deposit		154968	152892
Cash in Hand			7
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>220100</b>	<b>224706</b>
<b>Current Liabilites</b>			
<b>Net Assets at 31 December 2024</b>		<b>220100</b>	<b>224706</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>	<b>5</b>		
Restricted Funds		34366	68137
Designated Funds		95072	94927
Unrestricted Funds		90662	61642
<b>Total</b>		<b>220100</b>	<b>224706</b>

**The financial statements were approved by the following members of the Management Committee :**

Signed *A. King* Position Treasurer  
 Signed *S. Brown* Position Chair

Date 08-05-2025

**Bensham Grove Community Centre**  
**Notes to the accounts, 2024**

**1. Accounting Policies**

- a** The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006

Bensham Grove Community Centre meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

- b** Grants received are accounted for on a received basis and credited to income.
- c** Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Receipts and Payments Account when received.

**2. Grants receivable**

Community Foundation (Admin)	10000
Grant - Ballinger Trust LC Funding	17668
Software City Grant	500
Community Funding (Wages)	22580
Gateshead Council UP (Garden Grant)	6000
Social Change Grant - Grief Café	3040
Dawn Brown Fund	1685
Unique B Women	1750
Lankelly Chase (Staffing)	15698

**Total Grants** **78921**

**3. Trustees, staff and related party transactions**

The organisation employed 9 members of staff during the period of the accounts. No payments were made to trustees.

**4. Costs of financial services**

During the year £750 was paid for the independent examination of the 2023 accounts.

**5. Analysis of Funds:**

<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Open Bal</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expend</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>End Bal</b>
Dawn Brown Fund	501	1685	1647		539
Ballinger Trust	4612	17668	15817		6463
Lankelly Chase	63025	15698	53052	-17409	8262
Community Foundation Grant (admin)		10000	6671		3329
Software City Grant		500	500		0
Community Funding (Wages)		22580	9568		13012
Gateshead Council UP Garden Grant		6000	5719		281
Social Change Grant - Grief Café		3040	560		2480
Unique B Women		1750	1750		0
<b>Total</b>	<b>68138</b>	<b>78921</b>	<b>95284</b>	<b>-17409</b>	<b>34366</b>

**Designated Funds**

**1. Legal Liability Fund** 35000  
(Funds set aside should the organisation wind-up, to pay for Redundancy & other contractual obligations).

**2. Buildings & Maintenance Fund** 58000  
(Funds for replacement and upkeep of the building)

**3. Womens Group**  
Balance b/fwd 1297  
Income (from Ballinger Trust) 1750  
Expenditure -999 2048

**4. Pottery Fundraising**  
Income 1645  
Expenditure -1620 25

**Total Designated Funds** 95073

**Total Funds:**  
Restricted Funds 34366  
Designated Funds 95073  
General Funds 90661  
220100

The Charity aims to keep six months running costs in General Funds, as recommended by The Charity Commission.

**BENSHAM GROVE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1188101

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# Accounts

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**Bensham Grove Community Centre  
Registered Charity No. 1188101**

**Trustees' Report  
and  
Financial Statement  
for the year ended  
31 December 2023**

## Legal and Administrative Information

Name: **Bensham Grove Community Centre**  
Charity no: 1188101  
Structure: Unincorporated association governed by a constitution.

Trustees:

<i>Chair</i>	Shirley Brown
<i>Vice Chair</i>	Vikas Kumar
<i>Treasurer</i>	Angela Knox
<i>Secretary</i>	Shirley Allen
<i>Others</i>	Lorraine Yeats Susan Adamson

Trustees are elected by the membership at each Annual General Meeting.

Address: Sidney Grove  
Bensham  
Gateshead NE8 2XD

Bankers: Lloyds  
15 West Street  
Gateshead NE8 1DP

Independent Examiner: Mark Thompson MAAT  
42 Lesbury Road  
Newcastle  
NE6 5LB

# Trustees' Annual Report

## Background

The Community Centre was established to provide a community venue for the benefit of people living in Bensham, Gateshead and the wider area. The Centre works with the local partners, voluntary organisations, and other groups to provide opportunities and facilities to help improve the social and personal education, health and welfare, and recreational opportunities of local people. The Centre became a Community Interest Organisation in February 2020 changing its charitable status and governance, although its aims remain similar the concierge of the Grade 2 listed building has been added to its objectives. The Centre held an AGM in June 2023 where the current Board were required to be re-elected to stand, although the Treasurers post at that time remained vacant. ( New Treasurer elected in Jan 24) The centre employs a full time caretaker and two part time cleaners, two pottery technicians and a Centre Manager. In addition external funding has seen the Centre and area benefit from the input of two Community Bridgebuilder/ Community Development staff funded by Lankelly Chase. These appointments are viewed by the Board and members as positive steps in the development of the Centre. The Centre also employs consultative staff and sessional tutors when required.

The organisation is managed by a voluntary Board of trustees who are elected in line with the constitution. The Board meets at least six times every year to make decisions about the centre and its facilities, while the day to day running of the Centre is managed by the Centre Manager who meets with trustees regularly to keep them informed of developments and for advice. Gateshead Council are working towards asset transferring the lease of the project to the Board as it develops a less hands on approach to community asset management. The Board have appointed a solicitor Andrew Daverson from '22Law' to ensure the legalities of the procedure.

The project offers a membership scheme where members benefit from paying a reduced weekly subscription to attend and use the facilities on offer. The atmosphere throughout the project is nurtured to be supportive, enabling and welcoming.

During 2023 extensive finance was awarded by the local authority to the project as part of the journey towards self-management to enable the main building and perimeter wall to be correctly pointed. This has resulted in the building being futureproofed and looking extremely smart. The staff and volunteers are keeping on top of general repairs and maintenance, working with the conservation officer, gradually improving the building and its appeal to local people. The community are enthusiastic about the work of the project and plans are maturing to develop a new pottery building and to restore the attic spaces of the main house.

## **Review of activities and performance**

The Centre provides a wide range of activities, with a central focus being adult education and learning. There are a wide variety of classes, groups and activities available at the centre, ranging from Craft groups through to groups for older people, those that support the Minority Ethnic community and Adult education programmes both funded by the ESFSA and some at full cost recovery rates when indicated. The centre has a dedicated and well equipped pottery studio that is unique in the area as a community project. There is high demand for classes and practice sessions. The Centre offers computing and internet facilities as well as Basic Skills and ESOL. Recovery from the pandemic has been slow but many of the Centre programmes have supported the wellbeing of participants and there are excellent social support networks among groups via Social media as well as in person both in and outside of the Centre. The Centre has a very good relationship with Gateshead Council learning Skills and the WEA in the provision of accommodation and support for Adult learning courses. However the Centre hosts a wide range of community self help groups where those who wish to learn more informally are accommodated.

The Main House of Centre which reopened in September 2013 following a very successful Heritage Lottery Project is continuing to flourish and further develop. In 2021 The Centre completed the conversion of additional rooms on the first floor of the building as accessible artists studios, space for small businesses and the Football club federation. These studios help with the sustainability of the project. The addition of new ceramics installations as decorative finishes and some important 18th Century stained glass restoration ( completed with the assistance of Sunderland University students and staff) have added to the popularity of these studios and the aesthetics of the project overall. In 2023 with funding from the Queens Golden Jubilee fund two new stained glass windows were completed by a local artist who had developed her skills at Bensham Grove over many years along with local women, to great acclaim. The windows depict older and south Asian women, familiar sights at the Centre but rarely seen depicted in Heritage Crafts. These works are stunning and a great example of what community groups can achieve when they are determined and supported. All works within the centre are of exceptional standard and continue to be a highlight to visitors.

During this year we have been pleased to see the numbers of people involved with the centre grow. In particular the benefits of having Community Development workers on site, signposting local people to appropriate support and developing new groups such as more adult learning courses led by local volunteers, research groups from the University concerned with Diabetes treatment, Hoarding and Grief, social prescribing by local GPs working with people with exercise, dementia, menopause and weight issues has been really excellent and we can see how a holistic approach is working really well. Digital methods of keeping in touch with everyone during lockdown and distancing protocols can continue to be useful as people keep in touch daily with both other participants and their support workers; this applies to people from a range of different backgrounds and cultures, forming friendships and sharing customs. The wonderful garden at the Centre has been a great source of comfort for many local people who have little or no outside space. A successful volunteer project has developed a particular site for garden pollinators and a series of raised beds for members and local people to use. There is a growing interest in growing herbs for culinary and medicinal use led by a local professor which is extremely popular. These initiatives have brought new interest and volunteers to the project keeping it a very important community hub valued by those near and far.

The Community Centre is used seven days a week from early morning till 9pm. There are a wide range of groups, classes and courses using the facilities. The project, continues to be used by a diverse range of people reflective of both the multi-cultural nature of the local community and also by people with learning disabilities who enjoy being part of an open and inclusive community. There are also people from the LGBTQ community who find a warm welcome at the Centre and more recently hearing impaired members of staff who add to the knowledge and awareness of all of the members who embrace difference and enjoy learning about different life points of view.

**Risks, reserves and investments**

Staff carry out risk assessments on all our projects, and these are reviewed on a regular basis. This has been particularly important in terms of general safety. All funds not immediately required are held in interest-bearing accounts. The Centre has updated its financial procedures, safeguarding, Equality and Diversity and H&S documents over the last year and is working to update its current business plan.

**Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements**

Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which comply with the regulations set out in the Charities Act 1993. The Trustees have elected to take advantage of the provisions that apply to small charities and have prepared a Receipts and Payments Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Signed: S. Brown Chair, on behalf of the Trustees, date: 1/7/24

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

Report to the trustees of

### Bensham Grove Community Centre

On accounts for the year ended

31 December 2023

Charity no 1188101

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees of the organisation are responsible for the preparation of accounts; they consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an Independent Examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

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

Basis of independent examiner's statement


My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:
  - proper accounting records are kept (in accordance with section 130 of the Act); and
  - accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Date: 4 June 2024

Name: Mark Thompson MAAT  
Address: 42 Lesbury Road  
Newcastle  
NE6 5LB

**Bensham Grove Community Centre**  
**Receipts and payments account for the period**  
**1 January to 31 December 2023**

	Notes	2023 Unrestricted	2023 Restricted	2023 Total	2022 Total
<b>Income</b>					
Grants	2		109681	109681	88874
Rent and Room Hire		68177		68177	68663
Donations		583		583	1860
Classes Fees		2080		2080	36
Subscriptions		12970		12970	9024
Sales		4193		4193	1688
Fundraising		0		0	2184
Reimbursements		860		860	7398
Membership		1016		1016	999
Bank Interest		861		861	399
Studio Hire		15900		15900	12225
Womens Group (Ballinger)		2000		2000	0
Contribution to Pottery Tech		3034		3034	2195
Pottery Fundraising		1329		1329	3000
Pottery Resources		1289		1289	0
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>114292</b>	<b>109681</b>	<b>223973</b>	<b>198525</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
<b>Activities and Events</b>					
Events		4186		4186	3093
Payments from Grants			74239	74239	8115
Dawn Brown Fund Grants			986	986	1739
BG Womens Group		703		703	
Pottery Project		1191		1191	6878
Pottery Expenditure		9584		9584	
Equipment, Materials and Maintenance		14906	1567	16473	9934
Buildings refurbishment				0	9952
Transport/Volunteers Expenses		1348		1348	713
Performing Rights Licence		231		231	210
Staff Wages	3	51414		51414	76487
Refreshment Sales		450		450	267
<b>Management and Administration</b>					
Gateshead Council (Running Costs)		0		0	572
Insurance		5582		5582	1532
Accountancy	4	765		765	675
Printing, Post & Stationery		125		125	94
Fees repaid to GMBC		286		286	0
Utilities		44715		44715	29510
Reimbursements		1218		1218	1471
General Administration		168		168	125
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>136872</b>	<b>76792</b>	<b>213864</b>	<b>151367</b>
Surplus for the period		-22580	32889	10309	47158
Transfers between Funds		6500	-6500		
Balance at 1 January 2023		170649	43748	214397	167239
<b>Balance at 31 December 2023</b>		<b>154569</b>	<b>70137</b>	<b>224706</b>	<b>214397</b>

**Bensham Grove Community Centre  
Balance Sheet  
at 31 December 2023**

	Notes	2023	2022
<b>Current Assets Assets</b>			
Business instant access		274	271
Treasurer's account		71533	60067
Virgin Deposit		152892	152035
Cash in Hand		7	
Debtor			2024
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<u><u>224706</u></u>	<u><u>214397</u></u>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
<b>Net Assets at 31 December 2022</b>		<u><u>224706</u></u>	<u><u>214397</u></u>
<b>Represented by:</b>			
	<b>5</b>		
Restricted Funds		68137	43748
Designated Funds		94927	93000
Unrestricted Funds		61642	77649
<b>Total</b>		<u><u>224706</u></u>	<u><u>214397</u></u>

**The financial statements were approved by the following members of the Management Committee :**

Signed S. BROWN Position Chair

Signed [Signature] Position TREASURER

Date 1/7/24

**Bensham Grove Community Centre**  
**Notes to the accounts, 2023**

**1. Accounting Policies**

- a The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006

Bensham Grove Community Centre meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

- b Grants received are accounted for on a received basis and credited to income.
- c Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Receipts and Payments Account when received.

**2. Grants receivable**

Ballinger Trust	18729
Lankelly Chase	90952
<b>Total Grants</b>	<b>109681</b>

**3. Trustees, staff and related party transactions**

The organisation employed 8 members of staff during the period of the accounts. No payments were made to trustees.

**4. Costs of financial services**

During the year £700 was paid for the independent examination of the 2022 accounts. No other amounts were paid for financial services.

**5. Analysis of Funds:**

<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Open Bal</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expend</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>End Bal</b>
Dawn Brown Fund	1487		986		501
Ballinger Trust		18729	14117		4612
Lankelly Chase	40695	88952	60122	-6500	63025
Unique Bensham Womens Fund (Lankelly Chase)		2000			2000
Community Foundation (Arts)	1567		1567		0
<b>Total</b>	<b>43749</b>	<b>109681</b>	<b>76792</b>	<b>-6500</b>	<b>70138</b>
<b>Designated Funds</b>					
<b>1. Legal Liability Fund</b>		35000			
(Funds set aside should the organisation wind-up, to pay for Redundancy & other contractual obligations).					
<b>2. Buildings &amp; Maintenance Fund</b>		58000			
(Funds for replacement and upkeep of the building)					
<b>3. Womens Group</b>					
Income (from Ballinger Trust)	2000				
Expenditure	-703	1297			
<b>Total Designated Funds</b>		<b>94297</b>			
<b>Total Funds:</b>					
Restricted Funds		70138			
Designated Funds		94297			

General Funds

60271

**224706**

The Charity aims to keep six months running costs in General Funds, as recommended by The Charity Commission.

**BENSHAM GROVE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1188101

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# Accounts

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**Bensham Grove Community Centre  
Registered Charity No. 1188101**

**Trustees' Report  
and  
Financial Statement  
for the year ended  
31 December 2022**

## Legal and Administrative Information

Name: **Bensham Grove Community Centre**  
Charity no: 1188101  
Structure: Unincorporated association governed by a constitution.

Trustees:

<i>Chair</i>	Shirley Brown
<i>Vice Chair</i>	Vikas Kumar
<i>Treasurer</i>	Jill Marshall
<i>Secretary</i>	Shirley Allen
<i>Others</i>	Lorraine Yeats Susan Adamson Sara Allen

Trustees are elected by the membership at each Annual General Meeting.

Address: Sidney Grove  
Bensham  
Gateshead NE8 2XD

Bankers: Lloyds  
15 West Street  
Gateshead NE8 1DP

Independent Examiner: Mark Thompson MAAT  
42 Lesbury Road  
Newcastle  
NE6 5LB

# **Trustees' Annual Report**

## **Background**

The Community Centre was established to provide a community venue for the benefit of people living in Bensham, Gateshead and the wider area. The Centre works with the local authority, voluntary organisations, and other groups to provide opportunities and facilities to help improve the social and personal education, health and welfare, and recreational opportunities of local people. The Centre became a Community Interest Organisation in February 2020 changing its charitable status and governance, although its aims remain similar the concierge of the Grade 2 listed building has been added to its objectives. The Centre held a AGM in June 2022 but elections were not required following the details set out in the constitution. ( new appointments due 2023 from those members still in post) The centre employs a full time caretaker and a part time cleaner. The Board continue to support the part time Community Centre Manager which they feel is a positive step to the Centres development.

The Centre have also been funded by Lankelly Chase charitable funds to employ two part time Community Development workers ( Bridgebuilders) to work across the diverse communities in the area. This to date is working well and brings a new audience to the project. ESOL courses and refugee support groups have been further developed to support people newly arrived in the area.

## **Review of activities and performance**

The Centre provides a wide range of activities, with a central focus remaining of adult education and learning. There are a wide variety of classes, groups and activities available at the centre, ranging from Craft groups through to groups for older people, those that support the diverse community's and the Adult education programmes. The Centre has good internet facilities as well as Basic Skills programmes. Job clubs and voluntary sector/not for profit organisations hire rooms on an ad hoc basis, increasing the footfall and range of opportunities available. In 2022 the centre continued to see the aftermath of Covid 19 pandemic but a greater number of groups began once again to hire rooms and engage at the Centre. There were a total of 100 courses run engaging over 1000 learners as well as many new community support groups emerging.. The Centre has an arrangement with Gateshead Council learning Skills and the WEA in the provision of accommodation and support for Adult learning courses.

The Main House of Centre which reopened in September 2013 following a very successful Heritage Lottery Project is continuing to flourish and further develop. In 2022 the studio rooms which had opened in 2021 were fully occupied bringing sustainability to the centre. Plans to develop some new stained glass installations with funds from the Queens Jubilee Awards were developed. These works are looking to be stunning and a great example of what community groups can achieve when they are determined and supported. All works within the centre are of exceptional standard and continue to be a highlight to visitors. During this year too a book about the history of Bensham Grove and the families who lived here and donated the building to local people has been written. This is an important step forward and unique. The book is for sale raising much appreciated funds for the Centre.

During this year we have been pleased to see the numbers of people involved with the centre increase. New staff and local projects have increased the number of organisations that are frequently using the project. The wonderful garden at the Centre remains to be well used and appreciated. The gardening group have continued to develop their Bee garden and also have created a kitchen garden to show how they are developing their horticultural skills. The raised beds that were developed for local people to use are still used by a small number of local residents whose homes do not have gardens. These initiatives have brought new interest and volunteers to the project keeping it a very important community hub valued by those near and far.

The Community Centre is used seven days a week from early morning till 9pm. There are a wide range of groups, classes and courses using the facilities. The project, continues to be used by a diverse range of people reflective of both the multi-cultural nature of the local community and also by people with learning disabilities who enjoy being part of an open and inclusive community.

#### **Risks, reserves and investments**

Staff carry out risk assessments on all our projects, and these are reviewed on a regular basis. This has been particularly important in terms of general safety. All funds not immediately required are held in interest-bearing accounts. The Centre has updated its financial procedures, safeguarding, Equality and Diversity and H&S documents over the last year and is working to update its current business plan.

#### **Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements**

Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which comply with the regulations set out in the Charities Act 1993. The Trustees have elected to take advantage of the provisions that apply to small charities and have prepared a Receipts and Payments Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Signed: S. Brown.....Chair, on behalf of the Trustees, date: 3:4:23

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

Report to the  
trustees of

### Bensham Grove Community Centre

On accounts for  
the year ended

31 December 2022

Charity no 1188101

Respective  
responsibilities of  
trustees and  
examiner

The trustees of the organisation are responsible for the preparation of accounts; they consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an Independent Examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

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

Basis of  
independent  
examiner's  
statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent  
examiner's  
statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:
  - proper accounting records are kept (in accordance with section 130 of the Act); and
  - accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Date: 22 March 2023

Name: Mark Thompson MAAT  
Address: 42 Lesbury Road  
Newcastle  
NE6 5LB

**Bensham Grove Community Centre**  
**Receipts and payments account for the period**  
**1 January to 31 December 2022**

	Notes	2022 Unrestricted	2022 Restricted	2022 Total	2021 Total
<b>Income</b>					
Grants	2		88874	88874	32147
Rent and Room Hire		68663		68663	49790
Donations			1860	1860	0
Classes Fees		36		36	594
Subscriptions		9024		9024	2517
Sales		1688		1688	2389
Fundraising		2164		2164	1604
Reimbursements		7398		7398	7198
Learning Skills Operational				0	8000
Membership		999		999	250
Bank Interest		399		399	178
Overpaid to Ellison Services				0	0
Studio Hire		12225		12225	10600
Contribution to Pottery Tech		2195		2195	
Pottery Fundraising			3000	3000	1142
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>104791</b>	<b>93734</b>	<b>198525</b>	<b>116409</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
<b>Activities and Events</b>					
Events		3093		3093	851
Payments from Grants			8115	8115	13442
Dawn Brown Fund Grants			1739	1739	2343
Pottery Project			6878	6878	9110
Equipment, Materials and Maintenance		9934		9934	8241
Buildings refurbishment		9952		9952	6359
Transport/Volunteers Expenses		713		713	267
Performing Rights Licence		210		210	662
Staff Wages	3	46331	30156	76487	26890
Refreshment Sales		267		267	162
<b>Management and Administration</b>					
Gateshead Council (Running Costs)		572		572	572
Insurance		1532		1532	4693
Accountancy	4	675		675	650
Printing, Post & Stationery		94		94	133
Fees repaid to GMBC		0		0	3986
Utilities		29510		29510	25768
Reimbursements		1471		1471	
General Administration		125		125	
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>104479</b>	<b>46888</b>	<b>151367</b>	<b>104109</b>
Surplus for the period		312	46846	47158	12300
Transfers between Funds		9455	-9455		
Balance at 1 January 2022		160882	6357	167239	154939
<b>Balance at 31 December 2022</b>		<b>170649</b>	<b>43748</b>	<b>214397</b>	<b>167239</b>

**Bensham Grove Community Centre  
Balance Sheet  
at 31 December 2022**

	Notes	2022	2021
<b>Current Assets Assets</b>			
Business instant access		271	271
Treasurer's account		62091	21333
Virgin Deposit		152035	151635
<b>Total Currnet Assets</b>		<u><u>214397</u></u>	<u><u>173239</u></u>
<b>Current Lablllites</b>			
Utilities			-6000
<b>Net Assets at 31 December 2022</b>		<u><u>214397</u></u>	<u><u>167239</u></u>
 <b>Represented by:</b>			
	5		
Restricted Funds		43748	6357
Designated Funds		93000	78000
Unrestricted Funds		77649	82882
<b>Total</b>		<u><u>214397</u></u>	<u><u>167239</u></u>

**The financial statements were approved by the following members of the Management Committee :**

Signed S. Brown ..... Position Chair .....

Signed [Signature] ..... Position Vice-Chair .....

Date 3.4.23 .....

**Bensham Grove Community Centre**  
**Notes to the accounts, 2022**

**1. Accounting Policies**

- a The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006

Bensham Grove Community Centre meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

- b Grants received are accounted for on a received basis and credited to income.
- c Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Receipts and Payments Account when received.
- d Note that the organisation changed from Bensham Community Association (reg. charity no. 1090870), this is the first financial year under the new organisation. Assets and funding continue as previously.

**2. Grants receivable**

BOB Bee garden	200
ITC Gateshead Council/Software City	2500
Lankelly Chase	78356
Community Foundation (Arts)	5300
CLLD	2519
<b>Total Grants</b>	<b>88875</b>

**3. Trustees, staff and related party transactions**

The organisation employed 4 members of staff during the period of the accounts. No payments were made to trustees.

**4. Costs of financial services**

During the year £675 was paid for the independent examination of the 2021 accounts. No other amounts were paid for financial services.

**5. Analysis of Funds:**

<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Open Bal</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expend</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>End Bal</b>
Dawn Brown Fund	1366	1860	1739		1487
BOB Bee garden		200	216	16	0
ITC Gateshead Council/Software City		2500	2500		0
Lankelly Chase		78356	31822	-5839	40695
Community Foundation (Arts)		5300	3733		1567
Community Led Local Development		2519		-2519	0
Lottery Community Funding (Covid 19)	1390			-1390	0
Thrive Fund GMBC (Pottery) & Pottery Fund	3601	3000	6878	277	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>6367</b>	<b>93735</b>	<b>46888</b>	<b>-9455</b>	<b>43749</b>

**Designated Funds**

**1. Legal Liability Fund** 35000  
(Funds set aside should the organisation wind-up, to pay for Redundancy & other contractual obligations).

**2. Buildings & Maintenance Fund** 58000  
(Funds for replacement and upkeep of the building)

**Total Designated Funds** 93000

**Total Funds:**

Restricted Funds 43749  
Designated Funds 93000  
General Funds 77648  
214397

The Charity aims to keep six months running costs in General Funds, as recommended by The Charity Commission.

**BENSHAM GROVE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1188101

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# Accounts

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**Bensham Grove Community Centre  
Registered Charity No. 1188101**

**Trustees' Report  
and  
Financial Statement  
for the year ended  
31 December 2021**

## Legal and Administrative Information

Name: **Bensham Grove Community Centre**

Charity no: 1188101

Structure: Unincorporated association governed by a constitution.

Trustees:

<i>Chair</i>	Shirley Brown
<i>Vice Chair</i>	Vikas Kumar
<i>Treasurer</i>	Sara Allen
<i>Others</i>	Lorraine Yeats Susan Adamson Ruth Tissington

Trustees are elected by the membership at each Annual General Meeting.

Address: Sidney Grove  
Bensham  
Gateshead NE8 2XD

Bankers: Lloyds  
15 West Street  
Gateshead NE8 1DP

Independent Examiner: Mark Thompson MAAT  
42 Lesbury Road  
Newcastle  
NE6 5LB

# Trustees' Annual Report

## Background

The Community Centre was established to provide a community venue for the benefit of people living in Bensham, Gateshead and the wider area. The Centre works with the local authority, voluntary organisations, and other groups to provide opportunities and facilities to help improve the social and personal education, health and welfare, and recreational opportunities of local people. The Centre became a Community Interest Organisation in February 2020 changing its charitable status and governance, although its aims remain similar the concierge of the Grade 2 listed building has been added to its objectives. The Centre held a virtual AGM in Nov 2021 where the current Board were re-elected to stand. The centre employs a full time caretaker and a part time cleaners, they have taken advantage of the Governments Furlough scheme where necessary during the year. The Board have taken the decision to employ a part time Community Centre Manager in 2022 and feel that this is a positive step to the Centres development.

The organisation is managed by a voluntary Board of trustees who are elected in line with the constitution. The Committee is also supported by non-voting representatives of the Council's learning Skills Service, and all are representatives of groups who use the Centre. The Committee meets at least six times every year to make decisions about the centre and its facilities, while the day to day running of the Centre is managed staff from learning Skills (who are employed by the local authority and work closely with the Management Committee).

## Review of activities and performance

The Centre provides a wide range of activities, with a central focus being adult education and learning. There are a wide variety of classes, groups and activities available at the centre, ranging from Craft groups through to groups for older people, those that support the Minority Ethnic community and Adult education programmes. The Centre offers computing and internet facilities as well as Basic Skills. In 2021 the centre continued to be affected by the effects of the Covid 19 pandemic which had a huge impact on the ability of organisations to hire rooms, hold meetings and events as it would usually. Many courses took place online rather than the classroom which although keeping members and learners with us did very little to raise funds. However still there were a total of 150 courses run engaging over 1200 learners as well as many groups continuing to keep in touch via Social media and virtually. The Centre has an excellent arrangement with Gateshead Council learning Skills in the provision of accommodation and support for Adult learning courses

The Main House of Centre which reopened in September 2013 following a very successful Heritage Lottery Project is continuing to flourish and further develop. In 2021 The Centre completed to convert additional rooms on the first floor of the building as accessible artists studios. The addition of new ceramics installations as decorative finishes and some important 18th Century stained glass restoration (completed with the assistance of Sunderland University students and staff) have added to the popularity of these studios and the aesthetics of the project overall. These works are stunning and a great example of what community groups can achieve when they are determined and supported. All works within the centre are of exceptional standard and continue to be a highlight to visitors.

During this year we have been pleased to see the numbers of people involved with the centre remain stable, and have found digital methods of keeping in touch with everyone during lockdown and distancing protocols. The centre continued as a hub for Mutual Aid throughout the year where many volunteers were involved in delivering shopping, prescriptions and emergency food supplies. The wonderful garden at the Centre has been a great source of comfort for many local people who have little or no outside space. A successful volunteer project has developed a particular site for garden pollinators and a series of raised beds for members and local people to use which is extremely popular, as have the number of groups using our building. These initiatives have brought new interest and volunteers to the project keeping it a very important community hub valued by those near and far.

The Community Centre is used seven days a week from early morning till 9pm. There are a wide range of groups, classes and courses using the facilities. The project, continues to be used by a diverse range of people reflective of both the multi-cultural nature of the local community and also by people with learning disabilities who enjoy being part of an open and inclusive community.

### **Risks, reserves and investments**

We carry out a risk assessment on all our projects, and these are reviewed on a regular basis. This has been particularly important in terms of Covid safety. The Centre has been an excellent example of all of the regulations about social distancing, hygiene and tracking throughout, supplying volunteer made PPE to users and other local people. There was a tremendous response to all calls for help and support, strengthening and promoting the Community spirit which the centre was well known for. All funds not immediately required are held in interest-bearing accounts. The Centre has updated its financial procedures, safeguarding, Equality and Diversity and H&S documents over the last year and is working to update its current business plan.

### **Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements**

Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which comply with the regulations set out in the Charities Act 1993. The Trustees have elected to take advantage of the provisions that apply to small charities and have prepared a Receipts and Payments Account and

Signed: .....Chair, on behalf of the Trustees, date: .....

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

Report to the trustees of

### Bensham Grove Community Centre

On accounts for the year ended

31 December 2021

Charity no 1188101

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The trustees of the organisation are responsible for the preparation of accounts; they consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an Independent Examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

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

**Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:
  - proper accounting records are kept (in accordance with section 130 of the Act); and
  - accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Signed:**



**Date: 12 May 2022**

**Name:**  
**Address:**

Mark Thompson MAAT  
42 Lesbury Road  
Newcastle  
NE6 5LB

**Bensham Grove Community Centre**  
**Receipts and payments account for the period**  
**1 January to 31 December 2021**

	Notes	2021 Unrestricted	2021 Restricted	2021 Total	2020 Total
<b>Income</b>					
Grants	2	25134	7013	32147	149569
Rent and room hire		49790		49790	44013
Donations				0	579
Classes Fees		594		594	7750
Subscriptions		2517		2517	2700
Sales		2389		2389	767
Fundraising		1604		1604	635
Reimbursements		7198		7198	12320
Learning Skills Operational		8000		8000	699
Membership		250		250	169
Bank Interest		178		178	407
Overpaid to Ellison Services				0	8000
Studio Hire		10600		10600	1950
Pottery Fundraising			1142	1142	
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>108254</b>	<b>8155</b>	<b>116409</b>	<b>229557</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Activities and events					
Events		851		851	1398
Payments from Grants			13442	13442	156998
Dawn Brown Fund Grants			2343	2343	
Pottery Project			9110	9110	3861
Equipment, materials and maintenance		8241		8241	6439
Buildings refurbishment		6359		6359	7580
Transport/volunteers expenses		267		267	123
Performing Rights Licence		662		662	0
Staff Wages	3	22939	3951	26890	24518
Refreshment Sales		162		162	219
Management and administration					
Gateshead Council (Running Costs)		572		572	286
Insurance		4693		4693	1510
Accountancy	4	650		650	620
Printing, Post & Stationery		133		133	130
Fees repaid to GMBC		3966		3966	7617
Utilities		25768		25768	20047
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>75263</b>	<b>28846</b>	<b>104109</b>	<b>231346</b>
Surplus for the period		32991	-20691	12300	-1789
Balance at 1 January 2021		127891	27048	154939	156728
<b>Balance at 31 December 2021</b>		<b>160882</b>	<b>6357</b>	<b>167239</b>	<b>154939</b>

**Bensham Grove Community Centre  
Balance Sheet  
at 31 December 2021**

	Notes	2021	2020
<b>Current Assets Assets</b>			
Business instant access		271	271
Treasurer's account		21333	72005
Virgin Deposit		151635	82663
<b>Total Currnet Assets</b>		<u><u>173239</u></u>	<u><u>154939</u></u>
<b>Current Liablilites</b>			
Utilities		-6000	
<b>Net Assets at 31 December 2021</b>		<u><u>167239</u></u>	<u><u>154939</u></u>
 <b>Represented by:</b>			
	<b>5</b>		
Restricted Funds		6357	27048
Designated Funds		78000	60000
Unrestricted Funds		82882	67891
<b>Total</b>		<u><u>167239</u></u>	<u><u>154939</u></u>

**The financial statements were approved by the following members of the Management Committee :**

Signed ..... Position .....

Signed ..... Position .....

Date .....

**Bensham Grove Community Centre**  
**Notes to the accounts, 2021**

**1. Accounting Policies**

- a** The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006

Bensham Grove Community Centre meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

- b** Grants received are accounted for on a received basis and credited to income.
- c** Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Receipts and Payments Account when received.
- d** Note that the organisation changed from Bensham Community Association (reg. charity no. 1090870), this is the first financial year under the new organisation. Assets and funding continue as previously.

**2. Grants receivable**

Dawn Brown Fund (Community Foundation)	3062
HMRC Job Retention Fund	3950
Business Covid Fund (Gateshead Council)	25134
<b>Total Grants received</b>	<b>32146</b>

**3. Trustees, staff and related party transactions**

The organisation employed 3 members of staff during the period of the accounts. No payments were made to trustees.

**4. Costs of financial services**

During the year £620 was paid for the independent examination of the 2019 accounts. No other amounts were paid for financial services.

**5. Analysis of Funds:**

<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Open Bal</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expend</b>	<b>End Bal</b>
North Star	0			0
Dawn Brown Fund	647	3062	2343	1366
Unison	0			0
HMRC Job Retention Fund	0	3951	3951	0
Community Led Local Development Fund (Capital)	0			0
Community Foundation	2830		2830	0
Business Development Grant (Gateshead Council)	0			0
Lottery Community Funding (Covid 19)	9000		7610	1390
Community Foundation Resilience Fund	3002		3002	0
Thrive Fund GMBC (Pottery) & Pottery Fund	11569	1142	9110	3601
<b>Total</b>	<b>27048</b>	<b>8155</b>	<b>28846</b>	<b>6357</b>

**Designated Funds**

**1. Legal Liability Fund** 20000  
(Funds set aside should the organisation wind-up, to pay for Redundancy & other contractual obligations).

**2. Buildings & Maintenance Fund** 58000  
(Funds for replacement and upkeep of the building)

**Total Designated Funds** **78000**

**Total Funds:**  
Restricted Funds 6357  
Designated Funds 78000  
General Funds 82882  
**167239**

The Charity aims to keep six months running costs in General Funds, as recommended by The Charity Commission.

**BENSHAM GROVE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1188101

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# Accounts

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**Bensham Grove Community Centre  
Registered Charity No. 1188101**

**Trustees' Report  
and  
Financial Statement  
for the year ended  
31 December 2020**

## Legal and Administrative Information

Name: **Bensham Grove Community Centre**  
Charity no: 1188101  
Structure: Unincorporated association governed by a constitution.  
Trustees: *Chair* Shirley Brown  
*Vice Chair* Vikas Kumar  
*Treasurer* Sara Allen  
*Secretary* Ruth Tissington

*Others* Loraine Yeats  
Susan Adamson

Trustees are elected by the membership at each Annual General Meeting.

Address: Sidney Grove  
Bensham  
Gateshead NE8 2XD

Bankers: Lloyds  
15 West Street  
Gateshead NE8 1DP

Independent Examiner: Mark Thompson MAAT  
42 Lesbury Road  
Newcastle  
NE6 5LB

## **Trustees' Annual Report**

### **Background**

The association was established to provide a community centre for the benefit of people living in the Bensham and the wider area. The association works with the local authority, voluntary organisations, and other groups to provide opportunities and facilities to help improve the social and personal education, health and welfare, and recreational opportunities of local people. The Centre became an Community Interest Company in February 2020 changing its charitable status and governance however its aims remain similar but have added the concierge of the Grade 2 listed building to its objectives. The Centre held a virtual AGM in Nov 2020 where the current Board were reelected to stand apart from the Treasurer position where the outgoing treasurer was replaced by Sara Allen. the centre employs a full time caretaker and two part time cleaners, they have taken advantage of the Governments Furlough scheme where necessary during the year.

The organisation is managed by a voluntary Board of trustees who are elected in line with the constitution. The Committee is also supported by non-voting representatives of the Council's learning Skills Service, and all are representatives of groups who use the Centre. The Committee meets at least six times every year to make decisions about the centre and its facilities, while the day to day running of the Centre is managed staff from learning Skills (who are employed by the local authority and work closely with the Management Committee).

### **Review of activities and performance**

The Centre provides a wide range of activities, with a central focus being adult education and learning. There are a wide variety of classes, groups and activities available at the centre, ranging from Craft groups through to groups for older people, those that support the BAME community and Adult education groups. The Centre offers computing and internet facilities, Basic Skills and support for ethnic minority groups. In 2020 the centre was hit by the effects of the Covid 19 pandemic which had a huge impact on the ability of organisations to hire rooms, hold meetings and events as it would usually. Many courses took place online rather than the classroom which although keeping members and learners with us did very little to raise funds. However still there were a total of 150 courses run engaging over 1200 learners. The Centre has an excellent arrangement with Gateshead Council learning Skills in the provision of accommodation and support for Adult learning courses

The Main House of Centre which reopened in September 2013 following a very successful Heritage Lottery Project is continuing to flourish and further develop. The Centre made good on its plans to instal a new fire escape which made additional rooms on the first floor of the building accessible as artists studios. In addition new ceramics installations have been developed as decorative finishes and some important 18th Century stained glass is in restoration. These works are stunning and a great example of what community groups can achieve when they are determined and supported. The works of learners being integrated into the fabric of the building has continues with additional Ceramics work being added through the year in the form of illustrative tiles to all of the new studios. All works are of exceptional standard and continue to be a highlight to visitors.

During this year we have been pleased to see the numbers of people involved with the centre remain stable, and have found digital methods of keeping in touch with everyone while in lockdown. The centre was a hub for Mutual Aid throughout the year where many volunteers were involved in delivering shopping, prescriptions and emergency food supplies which has continued through additional lock down periods. The wonderful garden at the Centre has been a great source of comfort for many local people who have little or no outside space. A project has begin to develop a particular site for garden pollinators and a series of raised beds for members and local people to use which is extremely popular. as have the number of groups using our building. These initiatives have brought new interest and volunteers to the project keeping it a very important community hub valued by those near and far.

The Community Association is used seven days a week from early morning till 9pm. There are a wide range of groups, classes and courses using the facilities. The project, continues to be used by a diverse range of people reflective of both the multi cultural nature of the local community and more recently also by people with learning disabilities.

**Risks, reserves and investments**

We carry out a risk assessment on all our projects, and these are reviewed on a regular basis. This has been particularly important in terms of Covid safety. The Centre has been an excellent example of all of the regulations about social distancing, hygiene and tracking throughout, supplying volunteer made PPE to users and other local people. There was a tremendous response to all calls for help and support, strengthening and promoting the Community Spirit which the centre was renown for. All funds not immediately required are held in interest-bearing accounts. The Centre has updated its financial procedures and H&S documents over the last year and is working with its current business plan.

**Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements**

regulations set out in the Charities Act 1993. The Trustees have elected to take advantage of the provisions that apply to small charities and have prepared a Receipts and Payments Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Signed: .....Chair, on behalf of the Trustees, date: .....

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

Report to the trustees of

### Bensham Grove Community Centre

On accounts for the year ended

31 December 2020

Charity no 1188101

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The trustees of the organisation are responsible for the preparation of accounts; they consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an Independent Examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

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

**Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:
  - proper accounting records are kept (in accordance with section 130 of the Act); and
  - accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Signed:**



**Date: 3 June 2021**

**Name:  
Address:**

Mark Thompson MAAT  
42 Lesbury Road  
Newcastle  
NE6 5LB

**Bensham Grove Community Centre**  
**Receipts and payments account for the period**  
**1 January to 31 December 2020**

	Notes	2020 Unrestricted	2020 Restricted	2020 Total	2019 Total
<b>Income</b>					
Grants	2	30850	118719	149569	45180
Rent and room hire		44013		44013	61180
Donations		579		579	555
Classes Fees		7750		7750	12060
Subscriptions		2700		2700	5915
Sales		767		767	5066
Fundraising		635		635	17002
Reimbursements		12320		12320	9760
Learning Skills Operational		699		699	9340
Membership		169		169	485
Bank Interest		407		407	618
Overpaid to Ellison Services		8000		8000	
Studio Hire		1950		1950	
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>110838</b>	<b>118719</b>	<b>229557</b>	<b>167161</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Activities and events					
Events		1398		1398	3151
Payments from Grants		26306	130692	156998	25717
Pottery Project			3861	3861	0
Equipment, materials and maintenance		6439		6439	10917
Buildings refurbishment		7580		7580	13302
Transport/volunteers expenses		123		123	417
Performing Rights Licence				0	1947
Staff Wages	3	24518		24518	32977
Refreshment Sales		219		219	495
Management and administration					
Gateshead Council (Running Costs)		286		286	572
Insurance		1510		1510	5714
Accountancy	4	620		620	600
Printing, Post & Stationery		130		130	78
Fees repaid to GMBC		7617		7617	11863
Utilities		20047		20047	33064
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>96793</b>	<b>134553</b>	<b>231346</b>	<b>140813</b>
Surplus for the period		14045	-15834	-1789	26348
Balance at 1 January 2020		113846	42882	156728	130380
<b>Balance at 31 December 2020</b>		<b>127891</b>	<b>27048</b>	<b>154939</b>	<b>156728</b>

**Bensham Grove Community Centre  
Balance Sheet  
at 31 December 2020**

	Notes	2020	2019
<b>Current Assets Assets</b>			
Business instant access		271	271
Treasurer's account		72005	73635
Virgin Deposit		82663	82822
<b>Total Currnet Assets</b>		<b>154939</b>	<b>156728</b>

<b>Net Assets at 31 December 2020</b>		<b>154939</b>	<b>156728</b>
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<b>Represented by:</b>	<b>5</b>		
Restricted Funds		27048	48402
Designated Funds		60000	60000
Unrestricted Funds		67891	46696
<b>Total</b>		<b>154939</b>	<b>156728</b>

**The financial statements were approved by the following members of the Management Committee :**

Signed ..... Position .....

Signed ..... Position .....

Date .....

**Bensham Grove Community Centre**  
**Notes to the accounts, 2020**

**1. Accounting Policies**

**a** The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006

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**c** Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Receipts and Payments Account when received.

**d** Note that the organisation changed from Bensham Community Association (reg. charity no. 1090870), this is the first financial year under the new organisation. Assets and funding continue as previously.

**2. Grants receivable**

Dawn Brown Fund	1557
Unison	50
HMRC Job Retention Fund	6718
Community Led Local Development Fund (Capital)	92494
Community Foundation (Community Infrastructure Levy)	3400
Business Development Grant (Gateshead Council)	1250
Lottery Community Funding (Covid 19)	9000
Community Foundation Resilience Fund	4250
Business Resilience Fund (Gateshead Council)	30850

**Total Grants received** **149569**

**3. Trustees, staff and related party transactions**

The organisation employed 3 members of staff during the period of the accounts. No payments were made to trustees.

**4. Costs of financial services**

During the year £620 was paid for the independent examination of the 2019 accounts. No other amounts were paid for financial services.

**5. Analysis of Funds:**

<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Open Bal</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expend</b>	<b>End Bal</b>
North Star	32972		32972	0
Dawn Brown Fund		1557	910	647
Unison		50	50	0
HMRC Job Retention Fund		6718	6718	0
Community Led Local Development Fund (Capital)	-5520	92494	86974	0
Community Foundation		3400	570	2830
Business Development Grant (Gateshead Council)		1250	1250	0
Lottery Community Funding (Covid 19)		9000		9000
Community Foundation Resilience Fund		4250	1248	3002
Thrive Fund GMBC (Pottery) & Pottery Fund	15430		3861	11569
<b>Total</b>	<b>42882</b>	<b>118719</b>	<b>134553</b>	<b>27048</b>

**Designated Funds**

**1. Legal Liability Fund** 20000  
(Funds set aside should the organisation wind-up, to pay for Redundancy & other contractual obligations).

**2. Buildings & Maintenance Fund** 40000  
(Funds for replacement and upkeep of the building)

**Total Designated Funds** **60000**

**Total Funds:**

Restricted Funds 27048

Designated Funds 60000

General Funds 67891

**154939**

The Charity aims to keep six months running costs in General Funds, as recommended by The Charity Commission.