

NORTHFLEET CENTRAL
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

REGISTERED NUMBER CE021095

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation - Charity number 1188503

Brendan P Byrne & Co Ltd
Accountants
12 Old Bexley Lane Bexley
Kent DA5 2BN
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NORTHFLEET CENTRAL **REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** **FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

The Trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the period ended 30 June 2022

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, and 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).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The Objectives of the Charity are;

1. To promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of Northfleet, Kent and the surrounding area the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants.
2. To develop the capacity and skills of the members of the socially and economically disadvantaged community of Northfleet in such a way that they are better able to identify, and help meet, their needs and to participate more fully in society.

The application for the charity was initially submitted in July 2019 and was entered on the Register of Charities on 12th March 2020.

Two events entirely out of the control of the new charity originally were to influence the progress during the first year:

The first and most serious was that only six days after registration, the nation entered the most serious pandemic for a century and the necessary measures to control the infection required the population to be locked down.

Secondly negotiations to potentially lease the Northfleet Hub Community Centre, within which many of the potential activities would take place, came to an abrupt end in early 2020, when a building survey carried out by the owners indicated that in order to meet safety and habitation standards, significant and for the charity unrealistic expenditure would be required.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The second year of our operation was still somewhat under the shadow of the covid pandemic but like the rest of the country we witnessed a gradual improvement in community activity.

The Trustees continued to meet on average monthly, meeting via Zoom during the winter months and face to face for the Spring/summer meetings. In 21/22 we met a total of 10 times, with informal contacts between meetings by phone, WhatsApp and Zoom. Minutes of meetings were taken and standard items on the agenda included a Chairman's Report, Treasurer's Report and progress report on the preparation of a review of the Business Plan.

We were able to begin delivering our Business plan albeit in a limited way during the start of the year. A significant change was that during covid we were unable to open a bank account because the main banks were simply not accepting new subscribers. We were able to operate prior to July with the support of Northfleet CVS, for which we were very grateful. When the opportunity arose we were finally accepted by the Co-op Bank and with the support of our accountants our funds were transferred to the new account in July.

During the year we have played a very positive part in the many consultations that have taken place with Developers and other organisations. Our aim to improve the lives of the people of Northfleet has many aspects and structural changes to the environment via local development, leisure schemes and changes to facilities such as new schools can have an important impact. Northfleet Central CIO always responds to consultations by accurately reflecting what we believe are the needs of the people and the community. Some examples are schemes that are being planned that fail to involve local people, that falsely raise expectations about what will be the outcome or even simply fail to address such basic requirements as safe car parking and access. Our view is that our local links and knowledge qualify us to speak on behalf of local people and we have established a reputation as an organisation that makes comments that are rational and constructive.

Over the year representatives of the CIO have attended meetings of community liaison groups for the London Resort Community Forum, Bellway Community Forum, The Foundry and Harbour Community Forum and Keepmoat Housing. We continue to build links with other groups where we feel that we can add value.

An up to date website, a key part of our public face, and with support from a small local company we have maintained a website that accurately reflects our work and the membership of the board. Two Trustees have resigned this year, both for personal reasons and we have seen the arrival of a new Trustee. Living locally with good links to the community, our new Trustee has already made a useful contribution to the Board by taking on the management of our social media, something we wanted to develop but hadn't got to grips with during Covid.

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One lingering consequence of covid was the effect on families, particularly children. To combat some of that effect, we arranged sports sessions during the summer holidays in conjunction with four local primary schools. The scheme was offered to all year 5 primary school children and provided activity and companionship for the children who had been at home for so long. Some schools within Gravesend had previously offered similar sessions but the cost was prohibitive to many of our local families. With some financial support from the Kent Community Fund we were able to offer free places to all the children. The sessions were a great success. Notably because there were families with two or more siblings in the same school who without our support would previously have found such a financial outlay impossible.

The continued difficulties with IT access and equipment led us to partner with the Kent Digital Inclusion Scheme. As a charity we were able to make referrals and to benefit local families. This was particularly useful to address the needs of senior school pupils where the lack of IT connectivity was a problem.

Employment or the lack of it continues to be a significant social issue in Northfleet. In early 2021 we had begun a Work Club and it had grown steadily with many local people using our laptops and internet access to search for work, to avail themselves of the CV writing service and to receive general support that they often need to find work. The work club takes place in one of the church halls and at the same time as the local foodbank and debt support team. Northfleet is surrounded by several major construction projects and a CSCS card is a necessary qualification before an individual can work on a construction site. The cost of training, assessment and the card is quite prohibitive. With support from a local councillor, we partnered with Kent County Council and a local commercial training company to provide free help to suitable residents. That scheme is ongoing.

In other smaller but no less important projects we supported the St Nicholas Christmas Celebrations which delivered small bags of sweets to local children, supported the Christmas lunch appeal organised by a local church which provided lunch and entertainment for nearly 100 local pensioners and upgraded the wifi in a local church hall.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

This report covers the year ended 30 June 2022, this was the first year of operating without support from another local charity, the Council for Voluntary Services North West Kent. During the year the net outgoing resources were £7,822 (2021 net incoming resources were £29,937).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Charitable Incorporated Organisation was registered on 12 March 2020 and is governed by a Foundation Constitution.

There are currently eight Trustees in place with two vacancies.

The Trustees are:

Stephen Stamp (Chair)
Jagjit Klair (Treasurer)
Deborah Keys (resigned 31 March 2022)
Dawn Wellbelove
Caroline Pieroni (resigned 26 April 2022)
Andrea Jackova
Paul Avery
Lauren Sullivan
Samuel Reece Watts (appointed 01 April 2022)

The Charity Trustees manage the affairs of the CIO and may for that purpose exercise all the powers of the CIO.

It is the duty of each Charity Trustee to exercise:

- his or her powers and to perform his or her functions in his or her capacity as a Trustee of the CIO in the way he or she decides in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the CIO
- in the performance of those functions, such care and skill as is reasonable in the circumstances having regard in particular to any special knowledge or experience that he or she has or holds himself or herself out as having; and, if he or she acts as a Charity Trustee of the CIO in the course of a business or profession, to any special knowledge or experience that it is reasonable to expect of a person acting in the course of that kind of business or profession.

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- Individual Trustees have specific areas of focus:

Understanding the needs of the 'quiet' members of the community.
Researching and communicating to appropriate organisations and developers our specification for the "ideal community centre".
Focussing on the frontline social issues in our community.
Communicating what we are doing, how to access our services and encouraging financial support.
Ensuring our finances comply with the legal and other regulations.
Monitoring the local, county and national opportunities to engage with government and other agencies
Focussing on fund raising opportunities.
Attracting investment and support for youth provision.

All Trustees are tasked with delivering our Business Plan.

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the net movement of funds for that period. In preparing those accounts, 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 accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Trustees confirm that they have identified the risks to which the CIO is exposed. Primarily they are the need to operate in a legal framework that meets the requirement of the relevant Legislation, to manage our affairs in a financially prudent and open way, and to ensure that the conduct of Trustees reflect both the values and ethos of our CIO. Operating within a community requires us to ensure that the CIO builds and maintains a reputation for transparency, integrity and placing the needs of the community at the heart of our actions.

The Trustees addressed the financial structure of the charity, agreeing and putting in place financial authorities and controls.

The Trustees compiled and regularly review a 'Conflict of Interests Register'

We have reviewed and amended the Constitution where appropriate.

The 'Notice of meetings' is issued at least 7 days before the meeting and contains the draft minutes of the previous meeting. Draft minutes of meetings are prepared within 48 hours of the formal meeting and circulated to Trustees. Minutes are formally approved at the following meeting.

The Trustees have set up and regularly update a website which contains details of our business plan, Trustees and examples of our current activities.

Where appropriate the Trustees use social media to communicate to local people about our activities.

The Trustees have taken out an insurance policy to safeguard against any personal liability the Trustees might incur.

A major risk to the charity is that we fail to comply with the requirements of the Charity Commissioners and the important regulations that govern our activities. The Trustees have entered into a service agreement with a well established local accountancy firm who have an oversight of our accounts and provide advice when appropriate to ensure we comply with any legal and financial requirements.

An important aspect of our activity is the need to cooperate with and work alongside other local and national organisations. The Trustees have made a conscious decision that we will only partner organisations that can demonstrate that they meet the necessary legal and professional standards associated with the particular service they deliver.

FUTURE STRATEGY

Our objectives to address social welfare and poverty have assumed greater importance post Covid.

Employment opportunities abound in the area, surrounded as we are by a major construction project in the Ebbsfleet Garden City and

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with the London Resort project only a few kilometres away. We will continue to develop links with the main developers and form partnerships with local government and private training organisations to provide opportunities for local residents to achieve qualifications to improve their employment chances.

From the inception of the CIO we recognised that the community needed a community centre of some sort, particularly one that would benefit the young people of the area. Both nationally and locally reports charted the difficulties for young people after covid particularly with mental health. A study carried out in Kent indicated that Northfleet had the highest percentage of young people in the population than all other areas. Anti social behaviour is on the increase and Community Safety Officers have indicated the amount of drug related crime is on the increase. Building on the relationship we had established with Ebbsfleet Development Corporation we began a project to use a building within Northfleet as a Youth centre. That project will take time but will be worthwhile if it succeeds.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Northfleet Central Charitable Incorporated Organisation was registered on 12 March 2020. Registered Charity Number 1188503

REGISTERED OFFICE

12 Old Bexley Lane
Bexley
Kent, DA5 2BN

We operate the website www.northfleetcentralcio.org.

ACCOUNTANTS:

Brendan P Byrne & Co Ltd, Bexley

BANKERS

The Co-Operative Bank:

STATEMENT AS TO DISCLOSURE TO OUR ACCOUNTANT

In so far as the Trustees are aware at the time of approving our annual report there is no relevant information, being information needed by the accountant in connection with preparing their report, of which the Independent Examiner is unaware, and the Trustees, having made enquiries of fellow trustees and the Independent Examiner, that they ought to have individually taken, have each taken all steps that he/she is obliged to take as a Trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Independent Examiner is aware of that information.

This report was approved by the board on

and signed on their behalf

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INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT

In accordance with the engagement letter dated 27 August 2021, and in order to assist you to fulfil your duties for the Charity Commission, we have compiled the financial statements of the company which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and the related notes from the accounting records and information and explanations you have given to us.

This report is made to the Charity's Board of Trustees, as a body, in accordance with the terms of our engagement. Our work has been undertaken so that we might compile the financial statements that we have been engaged to compile, report to the Charity's Board of Trustees that we have done so, and state those matters that we have agreed to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Board of Trustees, as a body, for our work or for this report.

You have acknowledged on the Balance Sheet for the period ended 31 June 2022 your duty to ensure that the company has kept proper accounting records and to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view. You consider that the charity is exempt from the statutory requirement for an audit for the year.

We have not been instructed to carry out an audit of the financial statements. For this reason, we have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the financial statements.



Brendan P Byrne & Co Ltd

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (BALANCE SHEET)

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets		-	-
CURRENT ASSETS			
Amounts held by related body	4	-	30,537
Cash at bank and in hand		22,715	-
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	5	(600)	(600)
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		22,115	29,937
NET ASSETS		£ 22,115	£ 29,937
 THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY			
General funds		20,544	26,019
Restricted income funds		1,571	3,918
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS		£ 22,115	£ 29,937

In approving these financial statements as trustees of the charity we hereby confirm the following:

Trustees' responsibilities:

- 1) The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for its accounts for the year in question
- 2) The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.
- 3) That no guarantees have been given and no debts are subject to a charge on assets

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

The accounts were approved by the board of trustees on

Stephen Stamp

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS OR
PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT)

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total funds 2022	Total funds 2021
		£	£	£	£
Income	1b				
Income and endowments from:					
Grants Receivable		-	5,021	5,021	38,953
Total Income		-	5,021	5,021	38,953
Charitable activities					
Community Contributions		1,005	-	1,005	-
Expenditure	1c				
Advertising/Promotional		150	-	150	800
Computer Costs		144	373	517	2,727
Events		-	-	0	518
Insurances		202	-	202	404
Venue Hire		290	2,410	2,700	172
General Administrative Expenses		397	80	477	35
Other Professional Services	2	1,000	6,252	7,252	4,187
Miscellaneous		150	390	540	173
Total Expenditure		3,338	9,505	12,843	9,016
Net income/(expenditure)	5	(3,338)	(4,484)	(7,822)	29,937
Transfers between funds		(2,137)	2,137	-	-
Net movement in funds		(5,475)	(2,347)	(7,822)	29,937
Total funds brought forward		26,019	3,918	29,937	-
Total funds carried forward		20,544	1,571	22,115	29,937

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1a Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) and the Charities Act 2011.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

1b Income

Income comprises grants, donations received and the value of sales of educational services in the normal course of business based on subsidised fees for each session(s). The charity is not required to be registered for VAT.

1c Expenditure

Expenditure, includes VAT if applicable, and is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

1d Legal Status

The Charity has been formed as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation under the foundation model.

2. STAFF COSTS

The charity is staffed entirely by volunteers.

3. TAXATION

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 as any excesses of income over expenditure, if made, are applied to its charitable objects.

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

4. DEBTORS **2021**
£

Amounts held by the Council for Voluntary Services, North West Kent. 30,537

The 2021 balance is stated net of fees and funds were handed over on 28 July 2021 and therefore the 2022 balance is nil.

5. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR **2021 and**
2022
£

Accruals and sundry creditors 600