

The Frankie Howerd OBE Trust  
Annual Report and Accounts March 2020 to April 2021

The Frankie Howerd OBE Trust was originally registered with the Charity Commission in 2008 and re-registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in 2020. The Trustees have had regard for the guidance issued by the Charity Commission public benefit

**Charitable Objects:**

To further or benefit the residents of post code BS26 area and the neighbourhood, without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or 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 cooperate 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.

To work for the prevention or relief of poverty in post code BS26 area by providing grants, items and services to individuals in need and/or, other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty.

For the public benefit to provide transport facilities in the post code BS26 area for persons who have special need of such facilities because they are elderly, poor or disabled, people with young children and living in isolated areas where there are no adequate public transport facilities.

**Main Activity during the period:**

Following a series of consultations with residents of the villages in the BS26 area it became clear that the removal of key services in the area was having a serious affect on the quality of life of residents. The closure of all the village shops and post offices and the lack of public transport was having a particular negative effect on the lives of the elderly and isolated.

In further consultation with parish councillors, district councillors, local community leaders and the local authority The Trust concluded that a community centre based in one of the villages that could provide some of the lost services would be a positive solution.

A disused blacksmith's became available and The Trust set about developing it into a community hub. This activity has been the main focus of The Trust's work throughout the year and our fund raising activities have been focused on developing the hub.

Joanna Lumley, our President has been very supportive and says "It will be a gem at the heart of the community" once it's finished.

A local architect drew up the plans and planning permission was granted. A local builder was chosen from the three quotes received. The development is taking place in two phases. The first is to convert the blacksmith's into a cafe and shop and the second to build an extension that will provide an activities' centre, a new kitchen and larger shop.

An important development will be to purchase a community bus that will enable the elderly and isolated to be brought to the hub from other villages. The bus will also provide them with access to the town for services such as banks, chemist, post office and doctor's surgery.

The Trust is particularly grateful to the National Grid and the Enover Trust for their significant financial support of the project. Local fundraising and donations have also helped.

Unfortunately the Covid outbreak has severely handicapped progress throughout the year.

It is estimated that the first phase cafe and shop will be ready for opening in the summer of 2022.

#### FINANCIAL REVIEW:

Costs relating to the provision of a community hub for the rural villages of the BS26 area has been the dominant expenditure. The Trust has been able to meet all costs to date and a positive bank balance has been maintained at all times. Meeting these costs has meant that it has not been possible to hold reserves and the Trust has no investments. The Trust is fortunate to have committed patrons and supporters and there are no concerns about the charity continuing as an ongoing concern.

The Trust has taken a ten-year lease on a former blacksmith's to create a community centre and this is at a peppercorn rent. There is a clause that allows the lease to be extended.

#### ACCOUNTS;

Income: £6201.28

Expenditure: £14608.83

The excess expenditure over income of £8407.55 for the period is covered by a guaranteed grant.

#### STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE and MANAGEMENT

The Trust is registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

It has adopted the "Foundation" model constitution of a CIO.



There are currently six Trustees. Trustees are appointed at a properly convened meeting of the Trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as charity Trustees, the charity Trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

REFERENCE and ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS:

The charity name is The Frankie Howerd OBE Trust

Registered Charity Number: 1188630

Principal Address: Windsor House. Old Coach Road, Cross, Axbridge. Somerset.  
BS26 2EF

TRUSTEES:	POSITION	EXPERTISE
Philip Davies	Chairman	Management
Nigel Lincoln	Secretary	Education
Deborah Webb	Treasurer	Accountancy
Jane Lincoln		Education
Ian Shipton		Law
Alison Brockway		Social Services

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees



Philip Davies  
Chairman  
01/06/2022