

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Feering Community Centre  
(Registered Charity No. 1188714)**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

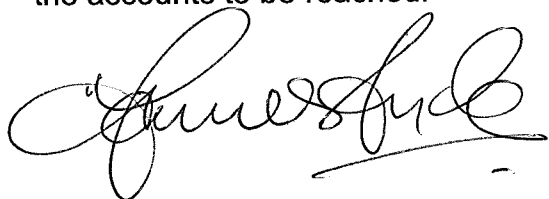
As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').  
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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



James Hyde

4 Mallard Close, Kelvedon, Essex

12 September  
~~April~~ 2024

**FEERING COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
**Registered Charity number 1188714**

**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024**

**Governance**

Feering Community Centre was registered with the Charity Commission on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 with a CIO Foundation Model governing document. The objectives of the charity are to run the Community Centre in Feering, which it does under a management agreement with Feering Parish Council (FPC). This agreement binds FCC to comply with the terms and conditions of a Joint Use Agreement (JUA) between FPC, the Chelmsford Diocesan Board of Finance and All Saints Academy Trust. The JUA covers the use and management of the Main Hall (which is jointly owned and jointly used), the Main Hall's structure, fittings and fixtures, and the total buildings' central heating system and services.

On 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024 Feering Parish Council became the sole trustee of the charity. Trustees of the CIO during the financial year were:-

Lee Blackburn (resigned 12/03/24)  
Robert Crayston (resigned 24/07/23)  
Katherine Evans (resigned 24/07/23)  
Paul Evans (resigned 24/07/23)  
David Gamble (appointed 24/07/23, resigned 12/03/24)  
Gilbert Heathcote (resigned 12/03/24)  
Michele Lakin (resigned 11/12/23)  
Kathy Lees (appointed 24/07/23, resigned 12/03/24)  
Mark Leslie (resigned 12/03/24)  
Bill McCartney (appointed 24/07/23, resigned 12/03/24)  
Claire Newton (appointed 24/07/23, resigned 11/12/23)  
Clare Reed (resigned 24/07/23)

The Sole Trustee considers that the Feering Community Centre does meet the public benefit test as stipulated by the Charity Commission.

**Activities for the year 2023/24**

Organisations catering for everyone from the very young to the elderly regularly use the Centre. The Centre hosts a mother and toddler group, pre-school nursery, brownies, craft groups, good companions, weekly country music evenings, bowls, fitness classes and a monthly cinema are examples of a variety of activities. Bookings are also received from further afield for various one-off events such as wedding receptions, birthday parties, elections and exhibitions. The local Garden Club holds their Annual Show at the Centre in September.

The charity was given a table tennis table in July 2023 and the sessions have proved popular.

In response to the cost-of-living crisis, the trustees have continued to provide a room at the Centre, free of charge, for a 'warm hub'. This was operated by Feering Parish Council on Wednesday afternoons through the winter months.

The May Fayre is the major fundraising event for the charity and is also a major social event in the village calendar. The team that organises the Fayre does a fantastic job encouraging everyone in the village to get involved. Other fundraising events in 2023/24 were a Christmas Fayre and a Quiz night both of which were very successful.

## Accounts for the year 2023/24

Unrestricted funds show a deficit of £3,196 this year (2022/23 deficit of £9,015). Letting income of £28,403 is higher than the previous year (2022/23 £25,501) but is not yet back to pre-COVID levels. Net income from fundraising contributed £5,210 which is a significant increase on the previous year (2022/23 net income £4,516). Repair and Maintenance costs were £2,921 lower than last year, but still significantly higher than the year before, mainly due to the age of the building. The solar panels have had a positive impact on electricity costs, the amounts paid being similar to last year despite unit price increases. At the very end of March, our electricity provider credited us with £1,111.64 and this is shown as a debtor on the statement of assets and liabilities to be offset against 2024/25 bills. We continue to seek best prices for regular expenditure and reduce costs wherever possible.

Discussions have been held with the trustees of Feering Primary School academy to agree a methodology for calculating cross-charges for utility bills. The charity charges the school for electricity used in the hall, and the school charges the charity for water supply and gas heating. Water and Electricity cross charges were settled up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, but the charge for gas is outstanding since July 2019. A settlement has been negotiated for the period to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024, and a figure of £13,562.85 appears as a creditor on the statement of assets and liabilities. A new methodology for the calculations moving forwards will be agreed between the school and the sole trustee, as set out in the JUA.

## Risk Areas and Risk Management

FCC needs to hold sufficient bank balances to meet its commitments as set out in the Joint Use Agreement. Provision must be made for future capital expenditure covering refurbishment and maintenance of the building's structure, fixtures and fittings. The building is now in its 35<sup>th</sup> year and unexpected problems requiring attention are increasingly likely. The charity is fortunate that the Feering Parish Council, as owners of the building, choose to undertake some of the capital improvements as they arise.

Free reserves at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 are £28,012 of which the trustees have earmarked £10,000 for building maintenance and renovation. After settlement of debtors and creditors, the remaining balance of £5,670 is not sufficient to cover over 6 months of operating costs. The remaining balance after debtors and creditors in the 2022/23 accounts was £19,964. This represents a reduction in uncommitted balances of £14,294. A large part of this reduction is due to the creditor for gas charges. As stated above the gas was outstanding from July 2019 but no creditor was included for gas charges in the 2022/23 accounts.

Since becoming sole trustee, Feering Parish Council have taken several actions to reduce expenditure and increase income. Financial monitoring for the first quarter of 2024/25 shows that these actions have achieved some improvement. However further actions are required, and budgets will continue to be actively monitored.

Feering Parish Council is committed to ensuring the long term financial sustainability of the charity and will take appropriate measures to support the charity. The support of the Parish Council provides certainty that the charity will continue as a going concern.

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul', written over a horizontal line.

On behalf of the Sole Trustee

**FEERING COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
**Registered Charity 1188714**

**Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st March 2024**

	<b>2023/24</b>			<b>2022/23</b>
	Unrestricted	Restricted	£	£
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
<b>From Trading Activities</b>				
Lettings	28403.28		28403.28	25501.01
Affiliation Fees	110.00		110.00	140.00
Compensation	150.00		150.00	0.00
Insurance claim			0.00	1010.00
<b>From Voluntary Sources</b>				
Fundraising	7229.53		7229.53	7883.53
Other Grants and Donations	107.22		107.22	511.53
<b>From Assets</b>				
Interest	600.61		600.61	266.45
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>36600.64</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>36600.64</b>	<b>35312.52</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
<b>Charitable Activities</b>				
Salaries	18107.03		18107.03	18468.40
<b>Trading Activities</b>				
Repairs and Maintenance	11397.35		11397.35	14317.99
Energy	3255.63		3255.63	3171.48
Water	0.00		0.00	914.32
Waste	873.08		873.08	839.00
PRS/PPL	615.38		615.38	628.26
Insurance	1409.10		1409.10	1283.19
<b>Administration of the charity</b>				
Telephone and broadband	1076.87		1076.87	625.64
Office Consumables & postage	31.87		31.87	25.62
Advertising	40.00		40.00	36.00
Computer costs	59.99		59.99	59.99
Independent Examination	75.00		75.00	75.00
Affiliation Fee (RCCE)	72.00		72.00	66.00
Bank charges	72.00		72.00	72.00
Miscellaneous	200.03		200.03	137.99
<b>Other Expenditure</b>				
Improvements and equipment	492.57		492.57	5684.96
Fundraising	2018.98		2018.98	3367.10
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>39796.88</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>39796.88</b>	<b>49772.94</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>-3196.24</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-3196.24</b>	<b>-14460.42</b>
<b>Balances Brought Forward</b>	<b>31208.69</b>		<b>31208.69</b>	<b>45669.11</b>
<b>Balances Carried Forward</b>	<b>28012.45</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>28012.45</b>	<b>31208.69</b>

**FEERING COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
**Registered Charity 1188714**  
**Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st March 2024**

	2024	2023
<b>MONETARY ASSETS</b>		
<b>Deposits and Bank Balances</b>		
Cambridge & Counties Building Society	26166.91	27566.30
Unity Trust Account	1799.27	3189.66
Barclays Current Account		385.52
Petty Cash	46.27	67.21
	28012.45	31208.69
<b>HELD AS:</b>		
<b>General Reserves</b>	<b>18012.45</b>	<b>21208.69</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Earmarked reserves (Building maintenance)</b>	<b>7000.00</b>	<b>7000.00</b>
<b>Earmarked reserves (Renovation)</b>	<b>3000.00</b>	<b>3000.00</b>
	<b>28012.45</b>	<b>31208.69</b>
<b>Debtors</b>		
Accrued Interest	959.45	526.20
SSE electricity refund due	1111.64	
Electricity not charged to school	837.50	
Invoice paid in advance	52.98	48.60
Compensation due	75.00	
Unpaid letting invoices	2925.00	1357.10
	5961.57	1931.90
<b>Creditors</b>		
Letting deposits held	1610.00	1635.00
Lettings received in advance	0.00	106.00
Invoices	603.21	778.21
HMRC	631.00	
PRS/PPL	684.32	615.38
Independent examination	75.00	75.00
Amounts held for fundraising events	625.00	180.00
Water use not charged by school	512.77	
Gas use not charged by school	13562.85	
	18304.15	3389.59
<b>NON MONETARY ASSETS</b>		
Tables and chairs		
Kitchen Equipment		
Office Equipment		
Sports Equipment and Games		
Sound /PA System		
Stationery		
Cleaning materials		
Maintenance materials		