

Open Arms East Devon
Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 April 2024

Open Arms East Devon
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**Open Arms East Devon
Report of the Trustees
For the year ended 30 April 2024**

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements for the charity for the year ended 30 April 2024.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity registration number	1188977
Principal address	1 Westcott Way Honiton Devon EX14 1JE
Trustees	Mr G Wakeham Mrs S Edwards Mr H Brown Mr M Jones Mr D Barrow
Independant examiners	Simon A Martin Accountants Wessex House, 66 High Street Honiton Devon EX14 1PD

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The Trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Open Arms East Devon
Report of the Trustees Continued
For the year ended 30 April 2024

Governing document

Open Arms East Devon is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) whose only voting members are its trustees. The constitution was last amended on 20 February 2020 and the organisation was registered with the Charity Commission on 8 April 2020.

Organisational structure

The charity trustees are responsible for the general control and management of the charity. The trustees give their time freely and receive no remuneration or other financial incentives.

The trustees meet regularly during the year, at least on three occasions, but more often as the needs of the charity demand. An Annual General Meeting is also held with anyone welcome.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The existing trustees are responsible for the recruitment of new trustees from within the local community. In doing so the trustees believe that any new trustees are respected members of the local community and that good relations are maintained with the local communities that the charity seeks to serve.

In selecting new trustees, potential trustees are invited to attend trustees meetings as observers and are given more details of the charity's aims and activities and, if all agree, then they are proposed as new trustees at the subsequent trustees meeting. This process allows due consideration of the persons eligibility, personal competence, specialist knowledge and skills.

Risk Management

Disclosure and Barring Service checks are carried out on individuals who work with children and other vulnerable groups within the organisation.

In the next year the trustees plan to regularly assess the risks the charity faces through its regular activities and hopes to put a risk register together.

Objectives and activities

Our Purpose

We help adults experiencing mental health difficulties by providing peer group support, activities and experiences to improve wellbeing and increase confidence

Activities

We have continued to regularly provide two sessions per week which are open for all members to attend as they wish. Support and advice is always available and we also provide a free counselling service. Thanks to the grant received from Honiton Town Council last year we are able to engage an experienced session leader for 10 sessions to increase the range of activities offered and provide support for Garry.

We have provided a range of activities including paint pouring, jewellery making, tie-dying and pottery. We have also decorated canvas bags, worked with resin moulds and continued with cookery at the Tuesday sessions. Many of our sessions have been led by community artist, Hayley Watson. Trustees would like to congratulate Hayley on her award of a BEM in the New Years Honours List.

On International Women's Day the group was assisted by our local Co-op member pioneer to make bunting decorated with quotes by inspirational women which was displayed in the Co-op store in Honiton.

Venue

For most of this year the group met in the Community Use Building (CUB) in Honiton. We made alternative arrangements for a period of time in the summer holidays to allow the hall to be used for the provision of lunches for school children. We held some sessions in the portakabin on site and also arranged additional trips out during this period.

Unfortunately the CUB building was badly flooded in late September. The CUB trustees had to undertake an enormous amount of work to bring the building back into use and we resumed meeting there in late November. During this time we met locally, for coffee and lunch.

In early 2024 we received an offer to hold our sessions in the Mackarness Hall in High Street, Honiton. The main reason for considering a move was its central location in Honiton. This means that it is much more accessible to people in the community as it is close to public car parks and public transport. The hall is available for two full days on Tuesday and Friday, allowing a return to a full day session on Tuesdays.

The move went well in early April 2024 and the sessions have been successful.

Open Arms East Devon
Report of the Trustees Continued
For the year ended 30 April 2024

Objectives and activities continued

Outings

Members have also benefitted from visiting different locations this year – not just for the enjoyment of the day but also to expand their horizons and grow in confidence.

We visited:

The Donkey Sanctuary at Sidmouth
Bicton Gardens
Shaldon Zoo and beach
Sidmouth

Exmouth World of Country Life
Trago Mills
Otter Nurseries

We held our Christmas Lunch at the Otter Inn on Friday 15th December.

Governance

In March 2024 one of our longest standing trustees, Michael Jones, tendered his resignation from the Board of Trustees to concentrate on his other commitments. He had been an advocate for, and trustee of Open Arms East Devon since its inception in 2017 and the group is enormously grateful to him for his longstanding and continuous support.

Also in March we were delighted to welcome two new trustees, Susan Tucker and David Staff, both of whom have significant relevant experience.

Work with the community

Throughout the year we have attended a number of meetings and events to raise awareness of our work and to forge links with other community organisations.

Our impact

We have had new members join us this year and members new and old continue to tell us that attending sessions at Open Arms East Devon makes a real difference to their confidence and wellbeing.

Funding

We are so grateful to the individuals and organisations who contribute funding that makes our work possible. They include:

- Caroline Kolek for her donation of £490 following her successful ultramarathon run.
- The family of the late Mrs Maureen Sweetland for a donation of £340 in her memory.
- The members of the P & S Bingo club based at Honiton Conservative Club for their donation of £560.
- An anonymous donor for a donation of £150 in memory of her grandmother who lived with mental health difficulties.
- Honiton Town Council from whom we have received a grant for £1600 to provide support for Garry in the form of session leaders.
- Buckereil Community Association who made a donation of £512 from the proceeds of their Christmas Fayre
- Tesco Blue Token scheme – we received £1000 having been selected as one of the three good causes in the Axminster store
- Honiton Lions for their donation of £250.
- The National Lottery Community Fund for their grant of £7928

Thank you.

We are so grateful to our many friends, supporters and funders for helping us and making our work possible. These include:

Devon County Council
East Devon District Council
Honiton Town Council
Penny, Di and John Hartnell
Honiton Health Matters

The Trustees of the CUB building
Phil Twiss, Devon County Councillor
Hayley Watson of the Little Secret Craft and Design Studio

Simon A Martin Accountants
Honiton Carers
The National Lottery Community Fund
Devon Community Foundation
Gary McGoughlin and the Co-op, Honiton
The staff and volunteers at St Paul's Church

Our Trustees - Dean Barrow, Henry Brown, Sue Edwards, Mike Jones, Susan Tucker, David Staff and Garry Wakeham

Special thanks go to Garry Wakeham, our founder and Chair, who works tirelessly on a purely voluntary basis to help others and to Nicky Salter who also gives her time to support the individuals in the group.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Trustee

Date

Open Arms East Devon
Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees
For the year ended 30 April 2024

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 145 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 Charities Act 2011;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioner under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material aspect, the requirements;
 - a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act: and
 - b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
- to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mr D Barrow
Simon A Martin Accountants
Wessex House, 66 High Street
Honiton
Devon
EX14 1PD

Date

**Open Arms East Devon
Receipts and Payments Account**

For the year ended 30 April 2024

	Note	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
Receipts		£	£	£
Grants and Donations		8,928	14,038	18,238
Events				
Refreshments				501
Total Receipts		<u>8,928</u>	<u>14,038</u>	<u>18,739</u>
 PAYMENTS				
Activity and Refreshment Costs		2,243	7,473	7,709
Office Expenses		387	1,354	970
Insurance				212
Equipment Purchased		25	974	265
Rent		2,822	2,822	4,485
		<u>5,477</u>	<u>12,623</u>	<u>13,641</u>
 NET RECEIPTS/(PAYMENTS)		<u>3,451</u>	<u>1,415</u>	<u>5,098</u>
 BALANCES AT 01/05/2023		<u>5,477</u>	<u>19,228</u>	<u>19,228</u>
 BALANCES AT 30/04/2024		<u>8,928</u>	<u>20,643</u>	

Open Arms East Devon

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

For the year ended 30 April 2024

	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
CASH FUNDS	£	£	£
Bank Current Account	8,928	20,485	19,258
Petty Cash		158	
Total Cash Funds	<u><u>8,928</u></u>	<u><u>20,643</u></u>	<u><u>19,258</u></u>

LIABILITIES

Accrued Expenses

	0	0	30
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u><u>0</u></u>	<u><u>0</u></u>	<u><u>30</u></u>

Assets Retained for own use

The charity holds musical, kitchen, computer and office equipment.

Trustee

Date

Open Arms East Devon
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 April 2024

1. Accounting Policies

Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the receipts and payments basis and comply with the Charities Act 2011. In preparing the financial statements the charity follows best practice as laid down in the Statement of Recommended Practice 2005 and the 2008 regulations.

2. Trustee remuneration and expenses

Trustees could claim any out of pocket expenses but no one has done so in the year. None of the trustees are paid for their time.

3. Restricted funds

There are restricted funds at the end of the year. These will be used for hall hire and staff for activities.