

Always Community
(Registered charity, number 1189909)
Financial statements
for the year ended 30 June 2024

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**Always Community
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 30 June 2024**

Full name Always Community

Other names by which the charity is known AC

Organisation type Charitable incorporated organisation

Registered charity number 1189909

Principal address

NBV Enterprise Centre, 6 David Lane, Nottingham, NG6 0JU

Trustees

Yancy Johana Holden, from 24/07/2024

Colin Hyde

Alcot Walker

Tracey Lloyds

Ruth Imenson

Adam Baker

Jacqueline Bowen, until 23/07/24

Maureen Robinson, until 01/10/2023

Independent examiner

John O'Brien, employee of Community Accounting Plus, Units 1 & 2 North West, 41 Talbot Street, Nottingham, NG1 5GL

Governance and management

The charity is operated under the rules of its constitution adopted 11/06/20

When required, the Trustee roles are advertised and/or suitable prospective Trustees approached and appointed once approved by the Trustees

Objectives and activities

To promote sustainable development for the benefit of the public, in Nottingham by:
(a) the preservation, conservation and the protection of the environment and the prudent use of resources; (b) the relief of poverty and the improvement of the conditions of life in socially and economically disadvantaged communities; (c) the promotion of sustainable means of achieving economic growth and regeneration. Sustainable development means "development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit

Grassroots community project development. We achieve this through the introduction of innovative needs-led community projects. Projects support the local Nottingham community in cultivating, from a grassroots level, sustainable social and economic growth that will promote the ongoing development and maintenance of diverse grassroots community initiatives that advance and regenerate the social and economic wellbeing of the Nottingham community.

Always community is also keen to support fledgling grassroots community groups in the development of ground-level community enterprise initiatives. We look to facilitate this through engaging and demystifying learning that enables communities to effectively tap into the wider, and often unknown, potential that community enterprises can have in their local communities which they can readily harness.

Always Community also has a sincere interest in exploring and implementing new and innovative approaches to community cohesion that builds on the commonalities Nottingham shares as a multicultural community, rich in diversity. Always Community continues to explore new and innovative ways of enhancing and unlocking the hidden potential of the diverse strengths of the communities of Nottingham through partnership and new ways of working that build on and continue to unlock its ground level hidden strengths.

Public benefit statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

Summary of the main achievements during the period

Through verbal and written feedback, people have expressed they have been able to feel more connected to the city they live now, and see that there are more people going through similar situations, making feel them less lonely. Attendees have also taken this as an opportunity to know more about different cultures and see what their commonalities are.

Our events are also a space where people can find joy and connection without the pressure of their life worries. Some attendees expressed how the events allowed them to have a nice time with other people they had just met. These events also encourage them to continue attending the classes or activities from the group/ organisation and feel more connected to the other attendees.

Several attendees mentioned that it was their first time experiencing a meal or learning about a different country. New flavours and traditions captivated the attendees. Following the event, some participants expressed an interest in visiting the country in the future and a willingness to learn more about other cultures. Whilst collaborating with different student's societies, they expressed they found a safe space to celebrate their diverse backgrounds and experiences. When attendees truly connect with each other they feel comfortable sharing their life experiences, challenges and insights.

The impact of events went beyond. Some attendees kept the spirit alive after the events. Our partners mentioned how they looked for a public space to continue the conversation and stay a few hours together and how one event inspired a culture celebration that included people cooking and wearing traditional clothing. Our volunteers felt a desire to share their culture but also learn about some of the cultures that surround them in Nottingham. This was an opportunity for them to learn from new cultures and life experiences, integrating them further in to their community.

Always Community

So far, all the volunteers have been very committed which has been noted by many of the placement leads. How nice it is to work with volunteers who show up every week and are reliable and hard working. This has also helped create a positive experience for the groups and a trust between the two sides to share.

Volunteers and placement providers enjoy sharing their cultures and life experiences with the other. Feedback always shows the joy each side gets out of the appreciation the other shows for their culture enables more open and honest conversations to be had.

The charity's policy on reserves

Always Community's ongoing aim is to develop a general reserve to cover a minimum of 6 months running costs:

- To ensure that the Always Community can meet its obligations in the short term and in the event of late payment of grants;
- To cover any outstanding liabilities such as staff redundancy payments and remaining commitments;
- To ensure that Always Community's core activities can continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty.

Monitoring and review

The policy and general reserve target will be reviewed upon an annual basis. Furthermore, the calculations of the required level of reserves will be an integral part of Always Community planning, budget and forecast cycle.

Details of the current level of general reserve and a six month projected level will form part of the quarterly financial statement to Board members. Responsibility for the day to day monitoring and evaluation of reserves rests with the Chief Executive, with assistance from the Treasurer.

The aim of the charity is to build reserves for 6 months' operation. However, it is very difficult to build reserves when all the funding the charity receives is restricted to project delivery. Therefore, it is a long-term ongoing aim. Reserves are essentially built on unrestricted funds (Funds allocated for any use in the charity). Invariably the funds the charity receives are restricted funds (Funds restricted to the given project expenditure). Currently, Always Community doesn't have any reserves as all our funding is restricted.

Our policy is reviewed annually.

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Financial Risks

We are reliant on securing funds annually through grant applications to maintain our operations. Unfortunately, we have not yet been able to establish sufficient financial reserves to continue running our activities independently of awarded grants. The majority of our funding is restricted to specific projects, which means our ability to operate is directly tied to the funds we receive for each project.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed Yancy J.H. Date 13/11/24
Yancy Johana Holden, Chair

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of
Always Community
for the year ended 30 June 2024**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Always Community (the charity) for the year ended 30 June 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 charity'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 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 charity 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.

Signed  Date 14/11/24
John O'Brien MSc, FCCA, FCIE
Employee of Community Accounting Plus

Always Community
Receipts & payments account
for the year ended 30 June 2024

2023			2024
Total		Unrestricted	Restricted
Funds		Funds	Funds
£	Note	£	£
	Receipts		
37013	Grants & donations	2	57111
-	Sundry receipts	100	-
<u>37013</u>	Total receipts	<u>100</u>	<u>57111</u>
	Payments		
59	Advertising	-	75
2312	Computer & internet expenses	94	202
541	Engagement expenses	-	-
1912	Events	-	3250
-	Insurance	-	192
759	Legal & professional	60	1922
493	Office supplies	-	14
137	Printing & stationery	-	224
72	Publications & subscriptions	-	288
433	Recruitment	-	858
2199	Rent & room hire	-	643
528	Sessional workers	-	-
1411	Staff training	-	74
-	Premises maintenance	-	35
182	Telephone, internet & postage	-	525
245	Travel & subsistence	11	742
-	Volunteer expenses	-	983
38409	Wages, NI & pension	-	38579
<u>49692</u>	Total payments	<u>165</u>	<u>48606</u>
(12679)	Net receipts/(payments)	(65)	8505
36259	Cash funds at start of this period	219	23361
<u>23580</u>	Cash funds at end of this period	<u>154</u>	<u>31866</u>

Always Community
Statement of assets and liabilities
at 30 June 2024

2023		2024
£		£
<u>23580</u>	Cash assets	<u>32020</u>
<u>23580</u>	Bank accounts	<u>32020</u>
	Other monetary assets	
<u>-</u>	HMRC over payment	<u>1517</u>
<u>-</u>		<u>1517</u>
	Assets retained for the charity's own use	
	General equipment.	
	Laptop purchased June 2022, Cost £1330.	
	Liabilities	
636	Independent Examination	696
88	Payroll fees	-
790	HMRC	-
141	Pension	-
<u>1655</u>		<u>696</u>

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the charity by:

Signed Yancy J. H. Dated 13/11/24
Yancy Johana Holden, Chair

Always Community
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 30 June 2024

1. Receipts & payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts contain a summary of money received and money spent during the period and a list of assets and liabilities at the end of the period. Usually, cash received and cash spent will include transactions through bank accounts and cash in hand.

2. Grants & donations

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
The National Lottery	-	52111	52111
Thomas Farr	-	2000	2000
Albert Hunt	-	3000	3000
	<u>-</u>	<u>57111</u>	<u>57111</u>

3. Funds analysis

	Opening balance £	Receipts £	(Payments) £	Closing balance £
Restricted funds				
Albert Hunt	-	3000	-	3000
Hand Up	3438	-	(3438)	-
Connected Communities	5820	-	(5820)	-
Cost of Living Project		2000	(2000)	-
Cohesive Communities	5000	-	(5000)	-
Windrush Decision	9103	1747	(10850)	-
Reaching Communities	-	50364	(21498)	28866
	<u>23361</u>	<u>57111</u>	<u>(48606)</u>	<u>31866</u>
Unrestricted funds				
General	219	100	(165)	154
	<u>219</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>(165)</u>	<u>154</u>

Albert Hunt: funds for Hand Up project, related to advice of universal credit for refugees.

Allen Lane Foundation: fund used for continuation of Hand up project

Awards for All: fund used for Connected Communities

Thomas Farr: fund used for "Cost of Living" project

Foyle Foundation: fund used for Cohesive Community pilot

Heritage Lottery Fund: fund used for Windrush Decision Project

Reaching Communities: fund used for Connected Communities and Cohesive Community project together..

Always Community

4. Trustees' remuneration

Trustees received no expenses, remuneration or benefits in this period.

5. Related party transactions

here were no related party transactions during the period

6. Glossary of terms

Creditors: These are amounts owed by the charity, but not paid during the accounting period.

Debtors: These are services that the charity has paid for in advance, but not used during the accounting period.

Restricted funds: These are funds given to the charity, subject to specific restrictions set by the donor, but still within the general objects of the charity.