

KNOWLE DORRIDGE AND BENTLEY HEATH NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM CIO

England & Wales · Charity number 1190521

Details

Other names KDBH NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2020-07-22

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address c/o West Chartered Accountants
Suite K
Priest House
1624 High Street
Knowle
Solihull
West Midlands
B93 0JU

Phone 01564230104

Email kdbhforum@gmail.com

Website kdbh-np.org

Activities

Objects: 1. TO PROMOTE FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT, HIGH STANDARDS OF PLANNING AND ARCHITECTURE IN OR AFFECTING KNOWLE, DORRIDGE AND BENTLEY HEATH NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA'.2. THE PROTECTION, PRESERVATION, IMPROVEMENT AND REVITALISATION OF THE NATURAL AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT IN OR AFFECTING KNOWLE, DORRIDGE AND BENTLEY HEATH NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA'.3. TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT BY:A) THE PRESERVATION, CONSERVATION AND THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE PRUDENT USE OF RESOURCES;B) 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."IN FURTHERANCE OF THE ABOVE OBJECTS BUT NOT OTHERWISE THE TRUSTEES SHALL RUN A NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM FOR KNOWLE, DORRIDGE AND BENTLEY HEATH TO PROMOTE AND OR IMPROVE THE SOCIAL ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING OF THE AREA.

Activities: 1. To promote for the public benefit, high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting the Knowle, Dorridge and Bentley Heath Neighbourhood Area.2. The protection, preservation, improvement and revitalisation of the natural and built environment in or affecting the Knowle, Dorridge and Bentley Heath Neighbourhood Area.3. To promote sustainable development.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Other Charitable Purposes

Geography

- Solihull

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£7,567	£9,260	-	-
2023-09-30	£10,732	£1,345	-	-
2022-09-30	£622	£770	-	-
2021-09-30	£2,725	£2,522	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Nigel Moore	Chair	2025-11-12
Elisabeth Hedley		2023-07-22
Gary Green		2024-12-15
Ian Kay		2025-10-13
Susan Bennett		2024-04-16

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period						
From	Period start date			To	Period end date	
	01	October	2023		31	March 2025

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Knowle, Dorridge and Bentley Heath Neighbourhood Forum CIO
Other names charity is known by	KDBH Neighbourhood Forum
Registered charity number (if any)	1190521
Charity's principal address	Suite K, Priest House 1624 High Street Knowle, Solihull
Postcode	B93 0JU

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1	Roger Cook	Chair	
2	Elisabeth Hedley	Secretary	
3	Gary Green	Treasurer	
4	Ian Kay		
5	Susan Bennett		Commenced 16 th April 2024

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	Constitution; Code of Practice
How the charity is constituted	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

1. To promote for the public benefit, high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting the Knowle, Dorridge and Bentley Heath Neighbourhood Area.
2. The protection, preservation, improvement and revitalisation of the natural and built environment in or affecting the Knowle, Dorridge and Bentley Heath Neighbourhood Area.
3. To promote sustainable development for the public benefit by:
 - the preservation, conservation and protection of the environment and the prudent use of resources;
 - 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”.

In furtherance of the above objects but not otherwise the trustees shall run a Neighbourhood Forum for Knowle, Dorridge and Bentley Heath to promote and or improve the social economic and environmental well-being of the Area.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects

Since October 2023, the Forum has undertaken the following key activities in representing the Knowle, Dorridge and Bentley Heath community:

- Successfully completed the ‘Community Engagement and Social Infrastructure’ project to broaden the Forum’s reach and engagement across the KDBH community.
- Developed and implemented a comprehensive new website
- Continued to grow our profile and membership through community engagement events.
- Established a dedicated Planning Group, Planning application review and responses, building relations with the Council and other key stakeholders
- Provided guidance, assistance and engagement with residents and local organisations on community projects through the Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (NCIL) funding process

In carrying out the programme of work, the trustees have had due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Successfully completed the 'Community Engagement and Social Infrastructure' project

This project was initiated in May 2023 following a successful bid to Solihull Council for temporary funding. The project had three main aims:

- Broaden our reach and engagement with the KDBH community through the delivery of a range of specific projects in support of community matters identified within the Neighbourhood Plan.
- Strengthen the operational running of the Forum, which is focussed on empowering local people to shape physical, social and economic infrastructure development within Knowle, Dorridge and Bentley Heath.
- Provide capital expenditure items (e.g. portable PA system, projector, gazebo) that will enable the Forum to improve its ability to reach out and engage more effectively with the community.

The project was subject to considerable delay resulting from the pausing of the subsequently withdrawn Local Plan and the protracted Government consultation on proposed changes to the National Planning Policy Framework Review (NPPF). However, it is pleasing to report that the project aims set out have been now been achieved and the project successfully completed in March 2025.

New Website

A key element of the Social Infrastructure project referred to above was to completely renew and update the existing KDBH Neighbourhood Forum website (kdbh-np.org) which had been in place since the Forum was first established. The previous website was costly to operate, not user friendly and difficult to amend or update.

Following receipt of NCIL funding from the Council, a competitive tender process was undertaken and a new website commissioned. The Forum also engaged an external project manager to run the project.

The new website went live in February 2025 and it is now much easier for residents to engage with the Forum, use its site and find useful and helpful information. The website is much simpler for the Forum to operate, now presents information in a more modern and clearer format as well as providing several useful additional features and functionality. This includes:

- Setting out more clearly our purpose and what we do for the Knowle, Dorridge & Bentley Heath communities;
- Planning information on major plans and proposals such as Hampton Road (KN1), Arden Triangle (KN2) and emerging housing proposals such as Blue Lake Road and Golden End Drive;
- The latest planning applications within KDBH, provided on a weekly basis;
- Copies of planning responses submitted by the Forum's Planning Group;
- The KDBH Neighbourhood Plan;

- Updates on Solihull Council's Local Plan;
- Information on applications for Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (NCIL) Funds;
- Useful links including to Solihull Council's planning portal, our local MP, local organisations and how to report a problem to Solihull Council;
- Latest news and topical updates, including newsletters and newsflashes.

The feedback from residents, local councillors and Forum members has been extremely positive. The Forum has received much higher levels of interest on the website as well as regular contacts and enquiries on various matters, including the latest major planning applications proposed in our area.

Grow our profile and membership through community engagement events

Due to the pausing of the Local Plan and the Government's protracted NPPF Review face to face engagement events were put on hold for a time as, effectively, there was little worthwhile news to communicate to Forum members and local residents.

At the end of 2024 the Council relaunched a new Local Plan process with a Call for Sites exercise resulting in a significant increase in the level of interest and engagement with the Forum from the community.

Earlier this year the Forum was invited to present the latest work being undertaken together with details of the latest planning updates to The Knowle Society and the Dorridge and District Residents' Association Annual General Meetings. These events were extremely well attended and the Forum's participation greatly appreciated.

The Forum has continued to grow its membership and following the addition of the new website, engagement of a part-time Marketing and Communications expert on a part time basis and regular member and resident updates, membership has increased by 30% over the period of this report. Followers on our Facebook account have also increased by 12%.

Planning

a) Dedicated Planning Group

A dedicated Planning Group has been established. Their role is to:

- to review all KDBH planning applications and report back to the Forum Team;
- prepare and submit formal responses to the Council Planning Department on the more significant planning applications directly affecting the KDBH area;
- build relations with Council Planning officers and developers;
- assess the role and effectiveness of the KDBH Neighbourhood Plan and prepare an Update to ensure it remains in line with the Solihull Local Plan;
- respond to consultations and matters relating to the review of the Solihull Local Plan;

- prepare a bi-annual KDBH Monitoring report.

b) Planning application review and responses

The Forum has submitted detailed representations to the Council Planning Department on a number of planning applications, including all those that have come before the Planning Committee. In addition, Forum representatives have addressed the Committee on behalf of the community at several meetings.

Notable applications in which the Forum has been involved in this reporting period include those at the 'Arden Triangle' site namely, the Inspired Villages Integrated Retirement Village at Stripes Hill; the application by Kler for up to 450 dwellings on land South of Warwick Road and the application by Taylor Wimpey for up to 220 houses at Lansdowne House.

Other responses include objections to development at Greswolde House (7 houses) and at Pear Tree Farm. Copies of Forum responses are available on the Forum's web site.

c) Building relations with the Council and other key stakeholders

As guardians of the Neighbourhood Plan, meetings have been held with residents, key stakeholders, including developers, agents and councillors to press for proper and due consideration of the policies set out in the KDBH Neighbourhood Plan. This work continues with senior officers in the Planning Department. Efforts have also been made to meet directly with developers with a view to ensuring our NP policies are understood and respected. This has met with mixed success but is still seen as extremely important.

d) Neighbourhood Plan Update

Considerable progress has been made on an update to the Neighbourhood Plan. The intention was to be able to submit this to the Council for formal consideration as soon as the Solihull Local Plan Review was adopted. The withdrawal of the Local Plan has meant that the update of the Neighbourhood Plan has been placed on hold pending preparation of a new Local Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan remains relevant and is the most up to date part of the Development Plan.

Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (NCIL) funding process

The Forum has continued to provide guidance, assistance and engagement with organisations wishing to submit NCIL funding applications. It is pleasing to note that the organisations who were successful in bidding for funds in the 2024 bidding round had all been in contact with, and held discussions and follow-on meetings with the Forum.

As a direct result of having an adopted Neighbourhood Plan in place, the Forum has enabled the delivery of significantly higher NCIL benefits to the community as we receive 25% funding for local projects (only 15% without an adopted plan).

Since its introduction in 2020, this has resulted in 20 projects totalling over £300,000 being delivered in the KDBH area, of which £123,000 directly results from having the Neighbourhood Plan in place. With potentially some large housing developments in the pipeline, the additional infrastructure benefits to the community to offset the adverse effects of development are expected to be sizeable.

Section E

Financial review

Year End Accounts

In this reporting period the NCIL Community Engagement and Social Infrastructure project, which received Grant funding of £10,000 in May 2023 has been successfully completed. This project accounted for the majority of expenditure incurred.

Total receipts for the period totalled £7,567 (unrestricted receipts £67) with restricted funds payments totalling £9,260.

It is extremely pleasing to report that the efforts of the Forum in engaging with the wider KDBH community through a number of initiatives has been recognised and that grant funding in 2024-2025 provided some welcome financial breathing space. In addition, the recent news that grant funding has been extended to March 2028 is particularly welcome. This puts the Forum on a much more positive financial footing and will enable us to deliver more for the KDBH community we serve whilst continuing to remain focussed on the costs involved in everything we do.



We wish to place on record our grateful thanks to Solihull Council Members, Officers and Ward Councillors, as well as both the local residents associations, KDBH residents and Forum members and local businesses for the support and encouragement provided to the Neighbourhood Forum.

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Roger Cook	Elisabeth Hedley
Position	Chair	Secretary
Date	31 st August 2025	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Knowle Dorridge and Bentley Heath
Neighbourhood Forum CIO

1190521

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/10/2023	To	31/03/2025
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
SMBC Grant Agreement	-	7,500	-	7,500	10,000
Donations	67	-	-	67	732
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	67	7,500	-	7,567	10,732
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	67	7,500	-	7,567	10,732
A3 Payments					
Community Engagement Events	-	64	-	64	377
Equipment	-	401	-	401	180
Printing & Stationery	-	49	-	49	6
Software Support & Services	-	762	-	762	550
Insurance	-	247	-	247	232
Resources	-	4,768	-	4,768	-
Consultancy	-	2,970	-	2,970	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	9,260	-	9,260	1,345
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	-	9,260	-	9,260	1,345
Net of receipts/(payments)	67	- 1,760	-	- 1,693	9,387
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	2,465	9,443	-	11,908	2,521
Cash funds this year end	2,532	7,683	-	10,215	11,908

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Metro Bank	2,532	7,683	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	2,532	7,683	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	R W Cook	12/8/25
	E Hedley	12/8/25



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
Knowle Dorridge and Bentley Heath Neighbourhood Forum CIO

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st March 2025	Charity no (if any)	1190521
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Set out on pages

remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the eighteen month period ended 31/03/2025

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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 (~~other than that disclosed below~~*) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed: 

Date: 12/8/25

Name: Andrew Mark Dobson

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

ACMA, CGMA

Address:

Rana House
Frog Lane
Ilmington, CV36 4LQ

KNOWLE DORRIDGE AND BENTLEY HEATH NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1190521

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	01	October	2022		30	September	2023

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Knowle, Dorridge and Bentley Heath Neighbourhood Forum CIO
Other names charity is known by	KDBH Neighbourhood Forum
Registered charity number (if any)	1190521
Charity's principal address	Office 2, Greswolde House 197b Station Road Knowle, Solihull
Postcode	B93 0PU

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1	Roger Cook	Chair	
2	Elisabeth Hedley	Secretary	
3	Gary Green	Treasurer	
4	Andrew Marston		
5	Ian Kay		Commenced 13 th October 2022

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	Constitution; Code of Practice
How the charity is constituted	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

1. To promote for the public benefit, high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting the Knowle, Dorridge and Bentley Heath Neighbourhood Area.
2. The protection, preservation, improvement and revitalisation of the natural and built environment in or affecting the Knowle, Dorridge and Bentley Heath Neighbourhood Area.
3. To promote sustainable development for the public benefit by:
 - the preservation, conservation and protection of the environment and the prudent use of resources;
 - 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”.

In furtherance of the above objects but not otherwise the trustees shall run a Neighbourhood Forum for Knowle, Dorridge and Bentley Heath to promote and or improve the social economic and environmental well-being of the Area.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects

The Forum currently prepares a full and detailed report on its activities on a biennial basis. The latest full report covering the two year period April 2021 to March 2023 has been completed and available on our website (www.kdbh-np.org).

In summary, since October 2022, the activities in which the Forum has performed a key role representing the Knowle, Dorridge and Bentley Heath community has included:

- maintaining and improving communication with residents
- engaging with Solihull Council, residents and key stakeholders with regard to matters associated with the Emerging Local Plan and the Government National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) consultation
- review and input to local Planning Application matters
- Neighbourhood Plan monitoring and preparation of a draft update for consultation
- community projects – Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (NCIL)
- broadening the Forum’s reach and engagement on community matters including setting out a path to ensure the Forum has a firm financial footing so we can continue to serve our community.

In carrying out the programme of work, the trustees have had due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**Maintaining communication**

The Forum has communicated to its members, residents and local businesses using a number of communication channels including:

- e-newsletters
- emails, telephone, face to face
- placing Forum responses to planning applications on our web site
- on-line consultations enabling residents to vote on their priorities for utilising NCIL funds
- issuing member alerts covering urgent and important topics
- resident surveys – e.g. undertaking a comprehensive survey on the Governments consultation on proposed changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)
- participation in local community events e.g. Knowle Heritage weekends, Dorridge Day, Coronation Event (including the Big Help Out) etc enabling direct, positive and valued feedback
- Public Open Forum Events attracting up to 200 local residents

Emerging Solihull Local Plan

The Solihull Local Plan has unfortunately been paused at the examination stage following challenges to the Inspectors' preliminary conclusions and the subsequent Government consultation on possible amendments to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The Forum has been proactive in the following areas:

- Issued a comprehensive questionnaire on the proposed changes to National Planning Policy and how they may affect the KDBH Area, particularly in regard to green belt policy, housing density and local infrastructure. Over 200 responses received with 70% also providing detailed comments, including a number very supportive of the Forum's contribution in representing the wishes of the community
- Provided detailed responses to outline planning applications submitted by promoters on the larger KN2 'Arden Triangle' site
- Pressed Solihull Council Officers and Councillors to be included in discussions and preparation of the comprehensive masterplan for the 'Arden Triangle' site
- Submitted detailed responses to the NFFP consultation on behalf of the community
- Ensured members and residents were regularly updated on emerging developments regarding the Local Plan

Planning Application monitoring, review and input:

The Forum has reviewed, on a weekly basis, the planning applications under consultation for the KDBH Area to monitor adherence to Neighbourhood Plan policies and where appropriate, responds accordingly.

- A schedule of all applications received, reviewed and responded to were posted on our website
- Objections were submitted to 14 planning applications, considered to be of KDBH wide significance. Of these, six were approved, three were refused and five were withdrawn or a decision still awaited by the reporting year-end 30th September 2023
- Regular meetings were established with the Head of Planning, Design and engagement Services at Solihull Council to review and discuss objections to planning applications received and responded to
- Following the recent Forum AGM a highly interactive question and answer session was conducted with attendees on local planning matters which was extremely well received and also provided valuable feedback to the Forum team.

Neighbourhood Plan Monitoring and Update:

Neighbourhood Plan Monitoring - The Neighbourhood Plan includes a commitment by the Forum to review its policies, monitor adherence and delivery to ensure it remains relevant and the policies are effective. The Monitoring Report is prepared and issued on a biennial basis. The latest Report, covers the period from April 2021 to March 2023 and is published on our website (www.kdbh-np.org).

Overall, the Monitoring Report demonstrates there is now far greater awareness and consideration of NP policies by the Council and developers alike which is very positive.

The Monitoring Report requires a considerable amount of work and analysis by the Forum and at a recent review meeting with the Council it was agreed to streamline and align the production of the next report. A working group has been set up to take this initiative forward.

Neighbourhood Plan Update - It is now five years since the Neighbourhood Plan was approved following a 96% supportive vote in 2019 by residents at referendum. A great deal has happened since then and last year, anticipating the conclusion of the Solihull Local Plan review, we set to work reviewing and updating the Neighbourhood Plan (NP).

A first draft update of the NP has been produced by the Forum planning team and posted on our website together with an explanatory note. Preliminary consultation with Solihull Council has commenced and shortly we will be seeking views and comments from the wider KDBH community prior to finalising and issuing the Plan Update.

Community Projects - Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy

This is a vital part of the Forum's work and engagement with the local community. Since the Neighbourhood Plan was approved in April 2019 (and as a direct result of having additional funding available to the community by virtue of it) project funding totalling £250,000 for the KDBH community has been secured.

In the 2022 NCIL funding round five community projects were successful in bidding for funds amounting to £103,000. The projects were Dorridge Cricket Club – second pitch and changing facilities (£48,000), Dorridge Scouts Group – roof

modifications and replacement (£15,000), Knowle and Dorridge Cricket Club – clubhouse redevelopment (£20,000), KDBH Neighbourhood Forum – community engagement and social infrastructure building (£10,000) and the Northern Gateway to Knowle – landscaping and public realm improvements (£9,960).

An on-line resident consultation and voting preferences exercise was conducted, as in previous years, on bids submitted and the results provided to the Council prior to the final assessment. As the Forum had submitted a bid for funding, on this occasion, we did not play a role in the review, assessment and consideration of the bids.

Broadening the Forum's reach and future of the Forum

Funding: All Government funding for the Forum ceased when the Neighbourhood Plan was adopted in April 2019. Since then, the Forum had existed on dwindling remaining funds and 'one-off' ad-hoc donations which severely limited the scope of its activities. Costs had been kept to an absolute minimum by a small team of dedicated volunteers. Last year in an effort to address this the Forum:

- consulted residents on possible funding options
- met with local Councillors to seek their views and lobby for funding. The Forum was pleased to receive very positive feedback although no funding had been forthcoming by the end of last year
- sought to strengthen relationships with other local community organisations including The Knowle Society, Dorridge and District Residents Association (DDRA) and Visit Knowle to discuss other ways of delivering our objectives.

We are extremely pleased to confirm that following a successful bid for NCIL funding from Solihull Council for £10,000, announced in March 2023, the Forum is now on a much-improved financial footing. We have identified a number of projects to achieve the outcome of broadening the Forum's reach and engagement on community matters including:

- Substantially increasing Forum membership including younger members - in the past twelve months we have increased our membership by an impressive 18%
- Resident consultation on prioritisation of Community infrastructure projects
- Consultation and engagement with the community following the Inspectors' recommendations on the Solihull Local Plan
- Review and refresh of Community Actions set out in the Neighbourhood Plan
- Creation of a master-plan for the KDBH Area, including highways, parking, cycle and pedestrian routes etc – in association with key stakeholders to include Solihull Council, residents and key local community groups and organisations: Visit Knowle, The Knowle Society, DDRA and other members of the 'B93 Together' Group.

Section E

Financial review

Year End Accounts

In March 2023 the Forum was successful in applying for grant funding of £10,000 from the Solihull Council Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Structure Levy (NCIL) 2022/2023 budget to undertake a community engagement and social infrastructure project across the KDBH Area. In addition, other donations totalling £732 were received, primarily from the Knowle Society as well as £500 at the end of the previous financial year from the Dorridge & District Residents Association.

The NCIL grant is reported in the accounts as 'restricted funds' and may only be expended on project items specifically identified and agreed within the grant application.

Total receipts for the year totalled £10,732 with payments amounting to £1,345, of which restricted funds payments totalled £557. The majority of the remaining NCIL grant funding will be spent during the 2023/2024 financial year.

Post year-end the Forum received notification at the end of February 2024 that Solihull Council had approved a budget contribution in the sum of £10,000 per annum from 2024/25 onwards, subject to the necessary agreements being put in place to enable the funding to be drawn down as required.

We wish to place on record our grateful thanks to Solihull Council Members, Officers and Ward Councillors, as well as the 'residents' associations, KDBH residents and local businesses for the support and encouragement provided to the Neighbourhood Forum. This has enabled us to achieve longer term funding so that we can continue to serve and represent the KDBH community.

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Roger Cook

Elisabeth Hedley

Position

Chair

Secretary

Date

21st March 2024



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Knowle Dorridge and Bentley Heath
Neighbourhood Forum CIO

1190521

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/10/2022	To	30/09/2023
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
SMBC Council NCIL Fund Award	-	10,000	-	10,000	-
Donations	732	-	-	732	622
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	732	10,000	-	10,732	622
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	732	10,000	-	10,732	622
A3 Payments					
Community Engagement Events	-	377	-	377	20
Equipment	-	180	-	180	-
Printing & Stationery	6	-	-	6	33
Software Support & Services	550	-	-	550	451
Insurance	232	-	-	232	226
Bank Charges	-	-	-	-	40
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	788	557	-	1,345	770
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	788	557	-	1,345	770
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 56	9,443	-	9,387	- 148
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	2,521	-	-	2,521	2,669
Cash funds this year end	2,465	9,443	-	11,908	2,521

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Metro Bank	2,465	9,443	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	2,465	9,443	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

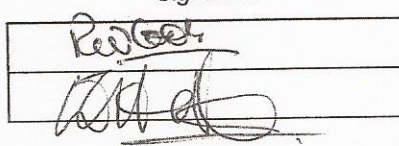
Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	R W Cook E Hedley	14/2/24 14/2/24



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
Knowle Dorridge and Bentley Heath Neighbourhood Forum CIO

**On accounts for the year
ended**

30 th September 2023	Charity no (if any)	1190521
---------------------------------	--------------------------------	---------

Set out on pages

(Remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30/09/2023.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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 (~~other than that disclosed below~~*) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

15/2/24

Name:

Andrew Mark Dobson

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

ACMA,CGMA

Address:

Rana House
Frog Lane
Ilmington, CV36 4LQ

KNOWLE DORRIDGE AND BENTLEY HEATH NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1190521

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	01	October	2021		30	September	2022

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Knowle, Dorridge and Bentley Heath Neighbourhood Forum CIO
Other names charity is known by	KDBH Neighbourhood Forum
Registered charity number (if any)	1190521
Charity's principal address	Office 2, Greswolde House 197b Station Road Knowle, Solihull
Postcode	B93 0PU

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1	Roger Cook	Chair	
2	Elisabeth Hedley	Secretary	
3	Gary Green	Treasurer	Commenced 15 th December 2021
4	Andrew Marston		
5	Jane Aykroyd		
6	Tony Aykroyd		

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	Constitution; Code of Practice
How the charity is constituted	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

1. To promote for the public benefit, high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting the Knowle, Dorridge and Bentley Heath Neighbourhood Area.
2. The protection, preservation, improvement and revitalisation of the natural and built environment in or affecting the Knowle, Dorridge and Bentley Heath Neighbourhood Area.
3. To promote sustainable development for the public benefit by:
 - the preservation, conservation and protection of the environment and the prudent use of resources;
 - 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”.

In furtherance of the above objects but not otherwise the trustees shall run a Neighbourhood Forum for Knowle, Dorridge and Bentley Heath to promote and or improve the social economic and environmental well-being of the Area.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects

The Forum prepares a full and detailed report on its activities on a biennial basis. The initial report covering the period to September 2021 is summarised in our Charity Commission Annual Report for last year and the full report is available on our website (www.kdbh-np.org). In the interim period covered by this annual report a high level summary of the main activities is provided.

In carrying out the programme of work, Trustees have had due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

In summary, since October 2021, the activities in which the Forum has played a key role in representing the Knowle, Dorridge and Bentley Heath community has included:

- maintaining and improving communication with residents
- preparing for and attending the Solihull Local Plan Review Hearings
- review and input to local Planning
- Community projects – Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (NCIL)
- broadening the Forum’s reach and engagement on community matters and setting out a path to ensure the Forum has a firm financial footing so we can continue to serve our community.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Maintaining communication

- The Forum communicates to its members and residents using a number of communication channels including:
 - e-newsletters
 - emails, telephone, face to face
 - placing Forum responses to planning applications on our web site
 - on-line consultations enabling residents to vote on their priorities for utilising NCIL funds
 - issuing member alerts covering urgent and important topics
 - surveys – e.g. undertaking a comprehensive car-parking survey for Knowle village
 - participation in local community events e.g. Knowle Heritage weekends, Dorridge Day, Coronation Event etc enabling direct, positive and valued feedback
 - Public Open Forum Events attracting up to 200 local residents
- The impacts of Covid seriously affected the ability of the Forum to communicate directly with the community. Thankfully, the effects of Covid have lessened to the extent where Public Open Forum Meetings have now re-commenced.

Solihull Local Plan Review (SLP)

Forum representatives have:

- Drafted, consulted and submitted written representations to the examination of the SLP
- Responded to the Inspectors written questions
- Attended the Examination sessions and participated in the debates, particularly the sessions on proposed development sites in Knowle
- Issued a 'Member Alert' to residents regarding concerns about the relocation of the Arden Academy secondary school
- Organised a public meeting to update residents and seek views on the interim findings of the Inspectors of relevance to the Knowle sites.

Planning Application monitoring:

The Forum has:

- Reviewed 197 planning applications
- Objected to 5 applications considered to be of KDBH wide significance. The largest application related to the redevelopment of St John's Shopping Centre, Knowle. Whilst overall in support of that development, the Forum liaised with residents and local businesses to seek local views before drafting an initial consultation response.
- Engaged with Solihull Council to discuss objections where possible.
- 3 planning applications were withdrawn following KDBH objections – all were resubmitted in amended form. These were not determined by September 2022.
- The number of applications affecting green belt land and involving trees was notable.

- Two appeal decisions were made in respect of applications the Forum had objected to. Both were allowed on appeal.

Note: as indicated above the Forum prepares a detailed Monitoring report on a biennial basis so the next report will be available covering the period to September 2023.

Knowle Parking Survey:

In order to inform its response to the St John's Shopping Centre application, the Forum, together with the Knowle Society and Visit Knowle initiated and undertook an online car parking survey to understand the views and concerns of local businesses, residents and visitors. The results of the Parking Survey were made available on our web site. The need to produce a coordinated plan to improve parking and traffic circulation around Knowle village centre will be a priority project for the Forum going forward provided necessary funding can be secured.

Community Projects- Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy:

This is a vital part of the Forum's work and engagement with the local community. Since the Neighbourhood Plan was approved in April 2019 (and as a direct result of having additional funding available to the community by virtue of it) already in excess of £100,000 additional project funding for the KDBH community has been made available.

In the 2021 funding round the Forum received over 700 resident responses to an on-line survey issued to give our residents the opportunity to consider and vote on six projects submitted for funding. The Forum then provided detailed analysis of the outcomes to inform the Council decision making process. Four projects were successful and received funding of just over £45,000 to provide a disabled and wheelchair bound access lift at St Philip's Church, Dorridge, a basketball court in Knowle Park, new tables and chairs in the Platinum Suite at the Royal British Legion and funds to enable the car-park at Dorridge Scouts Group to be re-surfaced.

Broadening the Forum's reach and Future of the Forum:

Funding: All Government funding for the Forum ceased when the Neighbourhood Plan was adopted in April 2019. Since then, the Forum has existed on dwindling remaining funds and 'one-off' ad-hoc donations which has severely limited the scope of its activities. Costs have been kept to an absolute minimum by a small team of dedicated volunteers. In an effort to address this the Forum has:

- consulted residents on possible funding options
- met with local Councillors to seek their views and lobby for funding. The Forum was pleased to receive very positive feedback from local Councillors although no funding has been forthcoming (by September 2022).
- sought to strengthen relationships with other local community organisations including The Knowle Society, Dorridge and District Residents Association (DDRA) and Visit Knowle to find other ways of delivering our objectives.

Community Actions: The Forum is keen to pursue a number of Community Actions that were raised by residents during the Neighbourhood Plan development process but were not suitable to take forward within the Plan as they were not land use based. These were subsequently included as Appendix 4 to the Plan. Outstanding

matters include: mobile phone and broadband coverage is poor in some areas but residents do not want masts introduced in unsuitable areas; and identifying roads where speed needs to be reduced, there is a need to draw up proposals and consult on their introduction. Parking and traffic issues were also a local concern. There are many more community initiatives that need taking forward but action has been constrained by Covid and also a lack of funding and resources.

Other initiatives: During the early stages of the pandemic the Forum introduced a number of new initiatives to help people including:

- developing interactive maps of local walks
- detailed listings and information about nearby heritage sites and
- an events calendar for local clubs and organisations.

The Forum is currently working with a number of local organisations (Visit Knowle, The Knowle Society, Knowle Round Table, Arden Academy etc). This informal group known as 'B93 Together' recently started to meet and as a result other organisations, including ourselves, were brought in to identify areas of mutual interest where we can all work together to deliver greater benefit for our community. Key initiatives include attracting more volunteers, sharing of resources and engaging with younger people.

Section E

Financial review

Year End Accounts

The impact of Covid-19 has been a recurring feature of Forum operations since it became a registered charity and prevented virtually all face-to-face community interaction over the first two financial reporting periods. As a result, the Trustees decided towards the end of 2021 it was inappropriate to actively pursue fund raising activities at that time. In addition, in this financial period the 'cost of living' crisis has also started to have an effect on the ability of small charities such as ourselves, to raise funds.

As a consequence, only very limited donations were received in the year ended 30th September 2022 and payments exceeded receipts by £148, a commendable outcome as a result of the Trustees decision to incur only very essential expenditure.


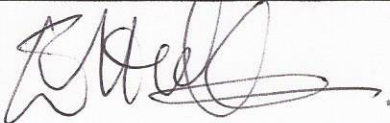
The Forum continues to engage proactively with the local Council and Councillors to explore opportunities for longer term funding and remains hopeful that the situation will improve in 2023. The financial situation will continue to remain under close scrutiny at all times.

Section G**Declaration**

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

	
---	--

Full name(s)

Roger Cook

Elisabeth Hedley

Position

Chair

Secretary

Date

10th June 2023

Knowle Dorridge and Bentley Heath Neighbourhood Forum CIO
Registered Charity Number: 1190521
Receipts and Payments for year-ended 30th September 2022


	£	£
Receipts		
CAF Donations	122	
Other Donations	500	
Total Receipts		622
Payments		
Software & Website Hosting Services	451	
Printing & Stationery	33	
External Public Meetings, Room Hire etc	20	
Insurance	226	
Bank Charges	40	
Total Payments		770
Net of receipts and (payments)		-148
Cash funds last year end		2669
Cash funds this year end		2521

Knowle Dorridge and Bentley Heath Neighbourhood Forum CIO
Registered Charity Number: 1190521
Statement of assets and liabilities at 30th September 2022

	£	£
Current Assets		
Cash at Bank	2521	
		2521
Current Liabilities		
	0	
		0
Net Current Assets		2521


Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Roger Cook
Trustee



Date 2/11/22

Elisabeth Hedley
Trustee

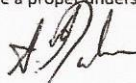


Date 2/11/22

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 which gives me cause to believe that, in any material respect accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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



Andrew Mark Dobson CIMA,CGMA
Independent Examiner

Date 3/11/22



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Knowle Dorridge and Bentley Heath Neighbourhood Forum CIO

**On accounts for the year
ended**

30th September 2022

**Charity no
(if any)**

1190521

Set out on pages

(Remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30/09/2022.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

A. Dobson

Date:

3/11/22

Name:

Andrew Mark Dobson

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

ACMA, CGMA

Address:

Rana House
Frog Lane
Ilmington, CV36 4LQ

Section B Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

KNOWLE DORRIDGE AND BENTLEY HEATH NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1190521

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period						
From	Period start date			To	Period end date	
		22	July		2020	

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Knowle, Dorridge and Bentley Heath Neighbourhood Forum
CIO

Other names charity is known by

KDBH Neighbourhood Forum

Registered charity number (if any)

1190521

Charity's principal address
(new address from December 2021)

Office 2, Greswolde House
197b Station Road
Knowle, Solihull
Postcode B93 0PU

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1	Roger Cook	Chair	
2	Elisabeth Hedley	Secretary/Treasurer	
3	Jane Aykroyd	(Former Chair)	
4	Andrew Marston		
5	Tony Aykroyd		

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document

[Constitution](#); [Code of Practice](#)

How the charity is constituted

Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

1. To promote for the public benefit, high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting the Knowle, Dorridge and Bentley Heath Neighbourhood Area.
2. The protection, preservation, improvement and revitalisation of the natural and built environment in or affecting the Knowle, Dorridge and Bentley Heath Neighbourhood Area.
3. To promote sustainable development for the public benefit by:
 - the preservation, conservation and protection of the environment and the prudent use of resources;
 - 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”.

In furtherance of the above objects but not otherwise the trustees shall run a Neighbourhood Forum for Knowle, Dorridge and Bentley Heath to promote and or improve the social economic and environmental well-being of the Area.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects

The full report on Forum activities over this first reporting period can be read [HERE](#). In carrying out the programme of work, Trustees have had due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

In summary, since charity registration in July 2020 our work has included:

- a. 17 e-newsletters keeping those registered with the Forum fully informed on our activities
- b. Creating a weekly extract of all KDBH-related planning applications under consultation and making this available to residents [on our website](#)
- c. Placing the Forum’s responses to planning applications (as a statutory consultee), and key other Council communications, [on our website](#)
- d. Undertaking [on-line resident consultations](#) in 2020 and 2021 enabling residents to vote on their priorities for using funds from new developments to support community-led projects (NCIL); and providing an analysis of voting outcomes to inform Council decision making
- e. Raising resident awareness of, and seeking feedback on, the [Council’s Local Plan final consultation in late 2020](#); this included 3 x explainer videos; making all draft representations on our website prior to issue, and enabling residents to provide on-line feedback
- f. Participating in outdoor community events, eg. Knowle Heritage weekends and Dorridge Day, gaining positive and very valued feedback from over 140 face-to-face engagements



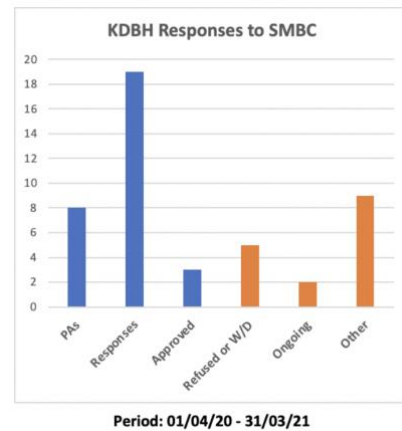
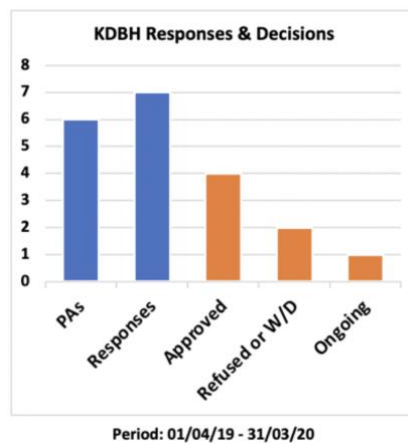
- g. Publicly representing the KDBH community and its Plan policies at the [Solihull Local Plan Hearings in Person](#) taking place from September 2021 onwards. This has involved at least 20 working days spent in preparation, review and issue of representations; attending hearings; and documenting potential implications for the Plan and the KDBH community
- h. Trialling ways to reach new audiences, extend our community presence and deliver enhanced community benefits. Given Covid, the main thrust here has been to capitalise on our Forum web assets to create new on-line community facilities for eg. [Coronavirus](#) ; [KDBH Listed and Heritage buildings](#); [interactive local walks](#)

Section D Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Planning: The KDBH Neighbourhood Forum has designed and implemented appropriate Plan monitoring systems and processes. Using these, the Forum team has created a summary of KDBH-related planning applications for years April 2019 - March 2020 and April 2020 - March 21. Again, [our full report](#) contains all details, with a graphical dashboard and detailed schedule of Forum responses to planning applications included in Appendix 1. In summary, we :

- o The Forum’s focus is on development proposals that raise KDBH Area-wide policy considerations, rather than minor applications. In 2019/2020, the Forum responded to 6 applications and 1 appeal; this increased in 2020/2021 to 7 applications and 1 appeal.



Note that the total number of responses (letters) sent to the Council can be greater than the number of applications responded to. This arises where a single planning application is subject to more than one consultation, eg. following a planning amendment; a report to, or attendance at, Planning Committee; or an appeal following a refusal by the Council. Every Forum response is recorded for monitoring purposes

- o Forum responses were mainly in respect of breaches of Plan policies concerning:
 - loss of trees
 - inappropriate design or density (usually through windfall developments)
 - unacceptable impacts on Local Green Space
 - impacts on Conservation Areas and impacts on employment/commercial centres

- In 2019/20, of the 7 objections made, 4 applications were approved, 1 was refused, 1 was withdrawn and 1 is still on-going. In 2020/21, the Forum responded to 8 applications, of which 3 were approved, 3 were refused, 1 was withdrawn and one is awaiting an appeal decision. The schedule for 2020/21 shows that the Forum made several follow up responses; as well as being active regarding loss of protected trees and commenting on the Council's draft document on Backland Residential Development.

Continued monitoring of planning applications and related data will develop knowledge, improve understanding, and extend insights into new development in KDBH and what this means for the Plan.

Transport Study: The Forum responded to a request from the community to use its expertise in commissioning a Transport Study to assess the impact of the Solihull Local Plan on the KDBH Area, and specifically proposals to build 800+ new houses on two large areas of Green Belt land. This was successfully delivered.

Community Projects: The Forum has played a very active role in successful delivery of Neighbourhood CIL (NCIL) projects to allocate £160,000 of funds generated from new development in our Area since the scheme started in 2019. On a day-to-day basis, the Forum's collaboration with the Council on NCIL community funding has progressed well and is generally positive. Some material issues remain, however, where the Forum is seeking changes from the Council in both its bidding and assessment processes to better align these with, and to reflect more closely, KDBH community expressed wishes.

Community Engagement: The Forum team continues to actively seek and encourage greater participation from residents in Forum activities, without which we remain severely constrained in the level of activity we can undertake on behalf, and for the benefit of, our whole KDBH community.

In 2021, the Forum has explored various avenues to extend its presence in the community, and to broaden its appeal beyond just those interested in planning matters. This has included applying the Forum team's knowledge, skills and IT assets to create an on-line:

- interactive map of local listed building and heritage assets to showcase what makes our Area so special
- listing of KDBH Groups and an associated KDBH Events Calendar to promote our local clubs and organisations as they re-set post lockdowns
- inter-active map with details of walks in and around the KDBH area, including printable / downloadable leaflets.

While some of these developments remain a work in progress, ideally needing interactive community involvement once Covid constraints ease, the team is pleased and proud that as a result since becoming a charity:

- our Facebook followers have increased from 1,750 to 2,327, a 33% increase
- Forum membership continues to grow steadily, with over 130 new registrations
- our total number of registered contacts has grown to 1,571.

Section E

Financial review

Year End Accounts

The Forum's Year End Accounts can be seen [HERE](#).

Covid-19 lockdowns have been a recurring feature of Forum operations ever since it became a registered charity and have prevented virtually all face-to-face community interaction over this first reporting period. Nevertheless, in Spring 2021, the Forum launched a first, on-line campaign to raise funds for its continued operation (grant funding being no longer available once a Neighbourhood Plan is completed). Donations totalling £926 were the primary source of income supporting Forum operation.

Although pleased to have a proven system and supporting processes now in place, and grateful for the donations received, future funding is a key aspect of concern and future focus for Trustees to establish sustainable operations.

A benefactor provided a one-off donation of £1,800 to enable the Forum to use its expertise to commission the Transport Study mentioned above.

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

Full name(s)

Position

Date

Roger Cook	Elisabeth Hedley	
Chair	Secretary / Treasurer	

10 March 2022

Knowle Dorridge and Bentley Heath Neighbourhood Forum CIO
Registered Charity Number: 1190521
Income & Expenditure for year ending 30 September 2021

	£	£
Income		
Donations	925.82	
Ring Fenced Donation (Transport Study)	1,800.00	2,725.82
Less Expenditure		
Consultants	1,800.00	
Printing Leaflets Posters etc	72.00	
Website hosting, software etc	213.26	
Company Insurance	236.00	
Stationery and Ink	200.26	
		2,521.52
Excess of income over Expenditure		204.30

Knowle Dorridge and Bentley Heath Neighbourhood Forum CIO
Registered Charity Number: 1190521
Balance Sheet for year ending 30 September 2021

	£	£
Current Assets		
Cash in hand	-	
Main Bank Account	2,728.97	
Sundry Debtors	20.00	
		2,748.97
Current Liabilities		
Sundry Creditors	80.00	
		80.00
Net Current Assets		2,668.97
Represented by		
Funds brought forward	2,464.67	
Excess of income over Expenditure	204.30	
		2,668.97

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Roger Cook
Trustee

Date

2/2/22

Elisabeth Hedley
Trustee

Date

16/2/22

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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Andrew Mark Dobson CIMA, CGMA
Independent Examiner

Date

2/2/22