

Agile Rabbit – South west Science and Culture CIO
Trustees Report and Financial Statements
for the Year ending 04 November 2023

Charity Number 1192190

The Trustees are pleased to present their annual report, together with the consolidated financial statements of the charity, for the year ending 04 November 2023.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities SORP (FRS 102) together with Update Bulletin 2.

Names of the Charity Trustees who manage the charity

Professor Sir Steve Smith
Stephanie Cherington-Rimmell
Fintan Irwin-Bowler
Qasa Alom
Charlotte Thorley (resigned 05/11/2022)

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity was registered in 2020. It is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and is governed by a deed. New trustees are selected by the current trustees of the charity. The day-to-day management of the charity is undertaken by two Co-Directors who are paid from the CIO's own funds.

Our Charitable Purpose

The purpose of the charity are:

The advancement of education in the subjects of science and culture by holding public events, lectures, and creating information media for the public benefit in the southwest of England, other areas of England and Wales and other countries as the board of trustees may decide from time to time.

The trustees recognise that the charity must report each year on how they have carried out their charity's purpose for the public benefit. In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Our Main Activities

A brief summary of the main activities normally undertaken by the charity to carry out its purposes for public benefit is as follows:

Agile Rabbit is an educational charity that produces quirky events, radio programmes, podcasts, and other experiences, often in an interactive and creative way.

We support people and organisations to communicate research and ideas, showing their relevance to lives and societies. With an informal tone, our events are inclusive and accessible, while still challenging audiences.

Achievements and Performance in 2022-23

In June 2023, we were commissioned to host a panel conversation for the University of Exeter's Centre for Water Systems' 25 Year Anniversary. The event titled 'Water and Climate Change: 10 Things You Should Know' saw four renowned speakers discuss the issues surrounding water sanitisation and scarcity. It was chaired by BBC's Anu Anand.

Our monthly events at Exeter Phoenix continued with both globally renowned figures alongside local speakers in science, culture, and global affairs. We welcomed speakers such as John Crace, Dr. Hannah Dawson, and Catherine Loveday. For two events, we collaborated with local independent booksellers.

In July 2023 we returned to Standon Calling Festival, a music festival in Hertfordshire. Following the success of 2021 and 2022, we curated the whole programme for the festival's Lawn Stage. We exposed an unsuspecting audience to a wide range of topics such as Hilma AF Klint, the workings of a human lung, climate change, and David Bowie. Amongst our speakers were Victoria Broackes from the V&A, Helen Czerski, and Cheddar Gorgeous. It was valuable to engage with new audiences in a non-educational setting.

We were commissioned by the British Science Festival to design a sensory map linking together all festival venues in Exeter. We worked with researchers, radio producers, and neurodivergent communities to create a legacy map that shows neurodivergent-friendly places and routes across Exeter. We also joined the festival activities with four guided walks and talks covering subjects such as plastic pollution, the asian hornet invasion, and fungi.

In September 2023 Agile Rabbit successfully delivered FUTURES: A Festival of Discovery for the South West on behalf of the University of Exeter. We successfully engaged rural communities in Cornwall by bringing the Pop-Up Shop to The Cornish Bank in Falmouth. With neurodivergent-friendly workshops, two quiet spaces, an accessibility guide, and guided walks and talks, we added new formats to the event.

We were supported by an expert team of UoE researchers who supported us in making the event accessible for neurodivergent families. The festival was originally part of the European Researchers' Night project; it is now funded by the UKRI. Researchers from all stages of careers participated and engaged with diverse audiences. Between the partners there were 127,500 participants and 366 individual researchers involved in 26 different events.

Blue Heart

One major piece of work is Blue Heart - we lead on the engagement and comms for this flood mitigation project in Eastbourne and southern Wealden. With our new member of staff, Eleanor, now in post as Engagement and Communications Lead for the Blue Heart project, we were ready to begin establishing our elements of the project, starting with the creation of a website and social media channels. Realising that the project branding was too corporate for community-focussed comms, we recruited illustrator Connie Noble to soften and humanise messaging online, on social media, and in print. We produced a set of three postcards which introduce Blue Heart, each with a different 'call to action' and a friendly illustration encouraging members of the public to pick them up.

We built on the success of our initial Community Radio work with Stellaria Media in two ways. Firstly, we wanted to introduce other ways that community members could contribute their knowledge to the project when we weren't there in person to talk to. For this we worked with Mapping for Change to produce an interactive, online map where users can upload points of interest, photographs, audio and video files that help us tell the story of Eastbourne and southern Wealden through water, heritage and ecology. Secondly, we wanted to continue using audio as a key element in the project, but needed to find audio producers based nearer the project area. Stellaria Media set up micro-commissions for local artists and audio producers who created short pieces of audio inspired by the theme of water. As well as creating additional content for Blue Heart (available via the website or on Soundcloud), it enabled us to make links with freelancers who might be able to support the project.

A number of community organisations who took part in the initial Community Radio work later became successful applicants to the Blue Heart Community Fund, launched in early 2023. This had been included in the Engagement Strategy as a way to support grass-roots activity to address flooding and climate change, and a way for the project to support existing organisations doing great work for their communities. In its first year, the fund supported six projects delivering tree-planting, raised beds for accessible allotments, food growing, engagement activities with water, a water refill station and a series of public events about growing.

An important element of raising awareness of Blue Heart, and developing relationships with communities, has been events – attending existing ones, and offering a few of our own. In a particularly intensive week, the team threw themselves into Eastbourne Spring Water Festival - having a stand at an Eco Fair, collaborating with local creatives to deliver a multi-disciplinary event in a local park, put on an evening talk and presenting at the Festival conference. A particularly poignant event took place on September when we ran a drop-in session for residents in Polegate who had experienced flooding earlier in the year, or who were concerned about their flood risk. Agile Rabbit worked with local authorities, the Environment Agency, Stellaria Media and The Environmental Design Studio to deliver the event which respectfully captured individual's stories, shared information and advice, and brought home to us the devastating impact of flooding on individual households and families.

Finances

Agile Rabbit was funded largely through grants, providing services to other organisations, and in a more limited way, through ticket revenue. Finances are healthy.

Marketing

Work in new communities, on larger events, and with new partners saw the bolstering of Agile Rabbit's reputation and a growth in the newsletter audience and across social media.

Trustees

We continued with four esteemed trustees and are aiming to increase this number over the coming year to add to expertise and plan for succession.

Risk Management

The trust maintained its risk register which was reviewed regularly at trustee meetings.

Financial Review

Results for the year

The Charity ended the 4th November 2023 with an overall surplus of £21,419 (2022 £23,232), of this the unrestricted loss was £13,486 with a carry forward restricted funds relating to the *Blue Hearts* project.

Total funds at 4th November 2023 were £61,051 of which £26,146 were unrestricted (2022 £39,632) and the remaining £34,905 restricted (2022 restricted Nil) .

Income in 2023 was £165,586 , a 115% increase from 2022, majority due to the grant from University of Exeter for delivery of the project *Blue Heart*.

As with growth on income, this resulted in greater expenditure for 2023, an increase of 60% compared to 2022, majority of this income was due to increase *Blue Heart* project delivery. In addition, the charity increased its employed staff from one at the start of the year to three at year end.

Finance, Investments and Reserves

It is the duty of the Trustees to manage the charity's reserves. The reserves policy is reviewed annually by the Trustees.

The Trustees have agreed to maintain an unrestricted reserve fund to cover three months of operating costs which is £18,250.

All restricted funds are used for their specific purposes.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

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

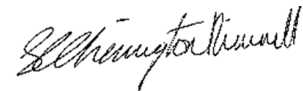
The law applicable to charities in England & Wales/Northern Ireland requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these 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 2015 and (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. 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

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 03.09.2024

and signed on its behalf by

.....

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CHAIR

Independent Examiner's report to the trustees of
Agile Rabbit – South west Science and Culture CIO

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 04 November 2023, which are set out on the following pages 7 - 16.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees 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 Act and in carry 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 charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records [; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination].

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.

NAME: SAM BLACKFORD ACA

ADDRESS: 105 Chineway Gardens
Ottery St Mary
EX11 1JJ

SIGNED



DATE: 3 September 2024

Agile Rabbit – South west Science and Culture CIO

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year ending 4th November 2023

For the year ending 4th November 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income:					
Donations and legacies	2	11,100	-	11,100	8,000
Income from Charitable activities	3	36,791	117,695	154,486	69,018
Total		47,891	117,695	165,586	77,018
Expenditure on:					
Costs of raising funds		-	-	-	-
Expenditure on charitable activities	4	61,376	82,790	144,166	53,786
Total		61,376	82,790	144,166	53,786
Net Income/(Expenditure)		(13,486)	34,905	21,419	23,232
Unrealised Gains/(Losses)		-	-	-	-
Net Movement in Funds		(13,486)	34,905	21,419	23,232
Fund balances brought forward		39,632	-	39,632	16,400
Fund Balances		26,146	34,905	61,051	39,632

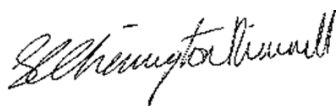
The notes on pages 9 to 16 form part of these accounts.

Agile Rabbit – South west Science and Culture CIO
Balance sheet as at 4th November 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets:			
Tangible assets	6	1,155	825
Current assets:			
Debtors		5,400	27,487
Prepayments		-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		58,246	17,914
		63,646	45,401
Liabilities:			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	7	(3,750)	(6,595)
Net current assets		59,895	38,806
Total assets less current liabilities		61,051	39,632
Funds			
Unrestricted funds			
General Funds	9	26,146	39,632
Total Unrestricted funds		26,146	39,632
Restricted funds		34,905	-
Total		61,051	39,632

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on
03.09.2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



Chairman

The notes on pages 9 to 16 form part of these accounts.

Agile Rabbit – South west Science and Culture CIO

Statement of Cash flows for the year ended 4th November 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>41,104</u>	<u>(3,237)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Interest received	-	-
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(772)	(849)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	<u>(772)</u>	<u>(849)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Repayment of borrowings	-	-
Net cash used in financing activities	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	<u>40,332</u>	<u>(4,086)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	17,914	22,000
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	<u>58,246</u>	<u>17,914</u>
	2023	2022
	£	£
Net income for the reporting period	21,420	23,232
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	442	24
Interest received	-	-
Decrease/ (Increase) in debtors	22,087	(27,487)
(Decrease) /Increase in creditors	(2,845)	994
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>41,104</u>	<u>(3,237)</u>

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 04 November 2023

I. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) 2nd edition and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accrual basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is used to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixed assets are depreciated as follows:-

IT equipment	25% per annum on costs
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Items with cost price of £500 and above will be included in fixed assets.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

The unrestricted fund has arisen through general fundraising, unrestricted donations and surplus from pursuing the charity's objectives.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the

specific fund. Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 04 November 2023 *(continued)*

2 Donations and Legacies

	2023	2022
	£	£
Donations	11,100	8,000
	<u>11,100</u>	<u>8,000</u>

3 Income from Charitable Activities

	2023			Total 2022
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL 2023	
	£	£	£	£
Ticket Event Income	2,811	-	2,811	6,795
Unrestricted income				
University of Exeter	8,303	117,695	125,998	31,773
University of Bath	1,300	-	1,300	5,450
East Sussex County Council	15,339	-	15,339	25,000
Newcastle University	2,037	-	2,037	-
Corporate Income	7,000	-	7,000	-
Total Unrestricted Income	<u>33,980</u>	<u>117,695</u>	<u>151,675</u>	<u>62,223</u>
Total income from charitable activities	<u>36,791</u>	<u>117,695</u>	<u>154,486</u>	<u>69,018</u>

4 Total Expenditure

Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	2023		
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL 2023
	£	£	£
	£		£
Events	28,192		28,192
Blue Heart External Project costs	-	42,961	42,961
	28,192	42,961	71,154
Staff Costs	28,942	39,828	68,770
Support Costs	2,487	-	2,487
Governance	1,755	-	1,755
Total Expenses	61,376	82,790	144,166
			46,052

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 04 November 2023 (continued)

4. Analysis of support and governance costs	General	Governance	2023	2022	Prior year Basis
	£	£	£	£	
		50%			
Marketing & Publicity	440	440	440	1,393	100%
Depreciation	441	441	441	24	100%
Administration	3,160	1,606	3,160	1,747	80/20%
Independent Examination	200	-	200	200	100%
Total expenditure	4,241	2,487	4,241	3,363	

Expenditure is stated after charging:-

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	441	24
Independent Examiner remuneration	200	200

5 Staff Costs and numbers

	2023	2022
	£	£
Salaries & Wages	65,960	4,242
Employers National Insurance	564	-
Pensions	2,246	128
	68,770	4,370

The charity had 2 employees during the year (2022 1).

The average weekly number of employees during the year were calculated on the basis of average monthly head count.

There were no redundancy and termination payments made in the year (2022 nil).

No emoluments of staff above the range of £60,000.

The remuneration paid to, and employee benefits received by key management during the financial year, together with the associated employer's National insurance contributions, totaled £25,953 (2022 nil).

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 04 November 2023 *(continued)*

6 Tangible fixed assets

	IT Equipment	Total
Cost	£	£
At start of year	849	849
Additions	772	772
Disposals	-	-
At the end of year	<u>1,621</u>	<u>1,621</u>
Depreciation		
At start of year	24	24
Charge for year	441	441
Disposals in year		
At the end of year	<u>465</u>	<u>465</u>
Net value at End of 2022	<u>825</u>	<u>825</u>
Net book value at year end 2023	<u>1,155</u>	<u>1,155</u>

7 Creditors	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade Creditors	925	184
PAYE & National Insurance	599	923
Employer Pension	2,026	-
Accrued Expenses		
Independent Examination	200	200
Consultancy fees	-	2,541
Event costs	-	2,746
Total Accrued Expenses	<u>200</u>	<u>5,487</u>
Total	<u><u>3,750</u></u>	<u><u>6,595</u></u>

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 04 November 2023 *(continued)*

8 Restricted Funds

	5th Nov 22	Income	Expenditure	4th Nov 23
	£	£	£	£
Cash funds				
University of Exeter - Blue Hearts	-	117,695	82,790	34,905
Totals	<u>-</u>	<u>117,695</u>	<u>82,790</u>	<u>34,905</u>

(2022- nil)

9 Net assets by fund

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Tangible assets	1,155	-	1,155
Current assets	28,441	35,205	63,646
Current Liabilities	(3,450)	(300)	(3,750)
Net Assets	26,146	34,905	61,051

Prior year comparitvies

9b Net assets by fund

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Tangible assets	825	-	825
Current assets	45,401	-	45,401
Current Liabilities	(6,595)	-	(6,595)
Net Assets	39,632	-	39,632

10 Trustee Information

Trustees remuneration and expenses

The trustees received no remuneration, except for travel and subsistence to meetings.

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 04 November 2023 (*continued*)

11 Pensions

The Charity operates one defined contribution pension scheme. The charge to the Statement of Financial Activities for the year is £2,246 (2022 – £128).

There were outstanding contributions at year end totaling £2,027 (2022 – nil).

12 Related party transactions

In the year there was one related party transaction. The charity made payments to Agile Rabbits Co-Director for their consultancy support on event management, totaling £10,891.25

Kate Baker, Co-Director at Agile Rabbit, received a total amount of £10,891.25 for consultancy support. All payments was made in the year and no amount was provided for in the accrued expense at year end.

In the Prior year there were two related party transactions. The charity made payments to the Agile Rabbits Co-Directors for their consultancy support on event management, totaling £18,522.05. John Puckey, Director at Agile Rabbit, received a total amount of £8,748.55 in relation to consultancy support.

Kate Baker, Director at Agile Rabbit, received a total amount of £9,773.50 for consultancy support. Within the total, £2,291.25 was due to the director, and provided for in the accrued expense at year end.

I3 Statement of Financial Activities for year ended 04 November 2022

For the year ending 4th November 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £
Income:				
Donations and legacies		8,000	-	8,000
Income from Charitable activities		69,018	-	69,018
Total		<u>77,018</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>77,018</u>
Expenditure on:				
Costs of raising funds		-	-	-
Expenditure on charitable activities		53,786	-	53,786
Total		<u>53,786</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>53,786</u>
Net Income/(Expenditure)		<u>23,232</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,232</u>
Unrealised Gains/(Losses)		-	-	-
Net Movement in Funds		<u>23,232</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,232</u>
Fund balances brought forward		16,400	-	16,400
Fund Balances		<u>39,632</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>39,632</u>