

QUEEN'S PARK AND CHARMINSTER NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

England & Wales · Charity number 1193653

Details

Other names	Queen's Park and Charminster Community Charity
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Status	Registered
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Legal form	CIO
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Registered	2021-02-24
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Register	View on the Charity Commission register
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Contact

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Website	www.qpc.org.uk
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Activities

Objects: The objects of the CIO are:(1) To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society, such persons being individuals who are excluded on the grounds of their social and economic position or by reason of disadvantage.(2) To promote social inclusion for the public benefit among people who are socially excluded by reason of their social and economic position by providing: -a. access to advice, information and guidance services, including signposting to further sources of support;b. social and recreational facilities and community-based activities designed to improve their conditions of life and promote integration.(3) To promote sustainable development for the public benefit, particularly for the benefit of communities experiencing social and economic disadvantage, by: -a. the preservation, conservation and protection of the environment and the prudent use of natural resources;b. the relief of poverty and the improvement of the conditions of life in such communities;c. supporting local community development and economic activity in ways that alleviate need and promote social welfare;d. promoting sustainable development as development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.(4) To promote for public benefit the regeneration of areas of social and economic deprivation in Queen's Park and neighbouring wards of Bournemouth by all or any of the following means: -a. the relief of financial hardship; b. the provision of advice, education and support to improve personal well-being, including access to healthy nutrition and physical and mental health services;c. the provision of financial assistance, technical assistance or business advice or consultancy for the relief of unemployment and the promotion of employment opportunities for persons in charitable need, including: -i. assisting individuals to establish their own businesses;ii. supporting existing businesses where this furthers the charitable purposes.d. the maintenance, improvement or provision of public amenities;e. the preservation of buildings or sites of historic or architectural importance;f. the provision of recreational facilities for the public or for those who, by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances, have need of such facilities;g. the protection or conservation of the environment;h. the promotion of public safety and the prevention of crime;i. such other charitable means as may from time to time be determined, subject to the prior written consent of the Charity Commission for England and Wales.Nothing in this constitution shall authorise an application of the property of the CIO for the purposes which are not charitable in accordance with [section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005] and [section 2 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008].

Activities: Be a Neighbourhood Forum to promote high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting Queen's Park and Charminster, Bournemouth. Educates the public in the geography, history, natural history, culture and architecture of the neighbourhood. Encourages the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features of historic or public interest in our defined geographic area.

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Environment/conservation/heritage, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups

Geography

- Bournemouth

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£10,125	£8,522	-	-
2024-03-31	£0	£60	-	-
2023-03-31	£0	£61	-	-
2022-03-31	£1,600	£255	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Karen Ann Laird	Chair	2024-03-31
Katherine Hodgkinson		2026-04-13
Richard Julian Perry		2024-04-29

QUEEN'S PARK AND CHARMINSTER NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

England & Wales - Charity number 1193653

Accounts



Queen's Park and Charminster Neighbourhood Forum
(a charitable incorporated organisation)

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Charity Number: 1193653

Contents

Report of the Trustees for the Period Ended 31 March 2025

Achievements and Performance	2
Plans for Future Periods	3
Our Aims and Objectives	3
How our Activities Deliver Public Benefit	5
Financial Review	5
Risk Management	5
Structure, Governance and Management	5
Reference and Administrative Information	6
Financial Statements	
Statement of Financial Activities for the Period Ended 31 March 2025	7
Balance Sheet as of 31 March 2025	7

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Organisational and Constitutional Changes 2024-5

The Queen's Park Neighbourhood Forum ('The Forum') was designated by Bournemouth Borough Council on 6th April 2018 but, as outlined in last year's annual return, was severely impacted by Covid in carrying out its primary designated duty of the Neighbourhood Plan ('NP').

A community consultation was carried out in 2022 to assess whether The Forum, also relating to 'The Charity' of the same name, should continue and would be able to meet the expectation of completing the NP. The consultation established the community wish persisted, but volunteer activity was lacking.

As a result, the Trustees at the time expressed their wish to hand over to a new set of Trustees, which took place in Q2 2025. The Trustees examined the constitutions, governance and public perception of both The Charity and The Forum, concluding there was confusion with both possessing the same name.

The constitutions of both organisations were redrafted voted into force, as well the governance structure changed. This made The Charity the lead organization and The Forum being a subordinate workstream although wholly and completely responsible for planning and creation of the NP with a ring-fenced budget and separate steering committee reporting to the trustees.

As a result, The Charity was renamed 'The Queen's Park and Charminster Community Charity' and The Forum retained the name of The Queen's Park and Charminster Neighbourhood Forum. The charity commission was updated with the new name for the Charity in Q3 2025, along with the new charity constitution and governance framework, subsequent to being voted as accepted at The Charity AGM.

Work carried out by The Charity Period 04/2024-03/25

In accordance with the newly ratified constitution, The Charity agreed with community input to concentrate on a number of themes (workstreams) focused on improving the health and wellbeing of our local community.

The 6 agreed themes are: -

1. Helping those Most in Need;
2. Funding;
3. Environmental;
4. Community Infrastructure;
5. Planning and Neighbourhood Plan;
6. Anti-Social Behaviour and Crime.

Although The Charity constitution limits its responsibility and focus to residents and businesses within the Queen's Park ward, it also has a remit to work with other persons or bodies outside of the ward where there is mutual benefit.

The charity has been instrumental in a number of successful grant applications and projects within the ward. These include successful grant application for a children's play area, community volunteer run graffiti and litter removal, collaboration in the creation of a community food bank with a second in progress. In total over 15 community projects have been put in place or delivered via coordination with The Charity. The Charity has become the primary conduit in the ward for community consultation and feedback to the council, and for parties wishing to engage with the community.

Work carried out by the Neighbourhood Forum workstream, Period 04/25-03/26

An application was made to BCP Council in Q2 2025 to redesignate the NP area, retaining the boundaries but with the inclusion of both sides of Charminster Road and an extension to the North to accommodate the part of the previous Strouden Park ward that was absorbed into the Queen's Park ward due to the redesignation of BCP ward boundaries. The rationale for Charminster Road, Strouden Park being non-

contentious, being this would be optimal way to include all the retail and hospitality outlets in the ward. This was accepted by the community, neighbouring wards and BCP Council with the redesignation formally announced in Q2 2025.

A concurrent application to groundworks (“*Locality*”) for funding to create of our NP was also accepted, as was an application to assess and provide 2 technical evidence documents: -

1. A 10-year Housing Needs Assessment, and
2. Building and Environment Design Code.

At time of writing, wk. 1 Dec 2026, both of the technical documents have been completed by AECOM and signed off by The Forum, and 90% of the NP has been drafted with 2 of the 5 policy themes remaining.

Of note, the BCP Council Local Plan submitted to central government in Q3 2025 was refused, resulting in it being passed back for revision and resubmission in 2026. This is a key risk, but we are still aiming for a final review and community consultation on our NP end of Q1 2026, and submission to BCP Council Q2 2026.

Plans for 2026-7

The Charity will continue to focus on and deliver in accordance with its constitution, in line with the aforementioned agreed themes. The Forum will continue as an autonomous workstream, under the governance of The Charity trustees, and will aim to complete and deliver the NP in Q1 / Q2 2026.

The Charity Constitutional Aims and Objectives

The objects of The Charity are:

1. To operate within the Queen’s Park and Charminster ward of BCP Council, with the primary aims of:
 - Maintaining and improving the quality of life for those residing and working in the local area;
 - Promoting and nurturing community responsibility, ownership and pride in the area and encouraging community participation;
 - Providing a link between the local people, schools, local authority, voluntary and other organisations;
 - Identifying key community issues and coordinating a community response to address and, where possible, resolve them.
2. To identify and coordinate applications for available funding that would benefit the local area.
3. To identify and collaborate with other individuals, agents and organisations that would further the aims of the CIO.

Nothing in this constitution shall authorise an application of the property of the CIO for the purposes which are not charitable in accordance with [section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005] and [section 2 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008].

The following map denotes the boundaries within which The Charity is mandated to operate.

Queens Park Neighbourhood Area Boundary



How our Activities Deliver Public Benefit

Our core themes were agreed via public consultation. The Charity delivers in accordance with Charity Trustee AGM and periodic review meetings, operating as a steering group, to define the Charity strategy and ratify the high-level plans of the working groups aligned with each theme. Not all themes are currently in-process and will be incepted as and when community volunteers and key stakeholders become available.

Each working group will have an autonomous leadership team, who are empowered to deliver projects aligned within their theme in accordance with the Charity strategy. Budgets are ringfenced for each theme, and all expenditure must be approved by The Trustees. Each working group facilitates community consultation and dialogue relating to the theme, agreeing initiatives and interventions (projects) and then own the shaping and delivery of the agreed projects.

Financial Review

The first half of the accounting year the Charity was restructuring and virtually dormant, drafting a new constitution and governance structure.

Although the Charity was actively involved in a number of projects around the core themes, these were all funded by Neighbourhood CIL (“NCIL”) or third-party grant funding paid direct to other delivery partners.

The Charity did receive an award from *Locality* of £9,970, in relation to completion of a neighbourhood plan, which encompassed the majority of financial expenditure in YF 24-5. We are pleased to say that this project has been very successful, with the neighbourhood plan being 85% completed.

The Charity received a small additional amount of £150 from donations.

Expenses incurred predominantly related to creation of the neighbourhood plan, comprising £8,079 of expenses. The remaining unspent *Locality* grant is shown £827 which will be repaid to *Locality* in Q3 2025.

As of 31st March 2025, the CIO held cash at bank totalling £5,242.

Of this £2,416 is deferred income which had been received from the Co-Op Community Fund and will be recognised as income in next years accounts. A further £827 is held as reserves, representing the sum to be repaid to *Locality*, which was not spent whilst creating the neighbourhood plan.

Risk Management

Risks to Delivery of our Neighbourhood Plan

We recognize the following risks to the creation of the NP, and continued operation of The Forum in its constituted form:

1. Revision and resubmission of the BCP Local Plan;
2. The advent of the new Bournemouth Town Council in May 2026;
 - a. This will lead to the dissolution of the Neighbourhood Forum, but we believe will increase the relevance and importance of the Charity in its stead.
3. Central Government plans for devolution to accommodate a larger unitary authority area, into which BCP council may be subsumed.

Risks to The Charity Strategy

The most significant risk faced by our CIO remains the availability of people with the time, skills, knowledge and commitment to dedicate to advancing the CIO’s work. However, with the increased profile of The Charity due to the successful delivery of a number of community projects we are seeing the number

of volunteers rising.

The secondary risk is access to funding, with increased competition for the reduced grant funding available. We were granted gift aid assurance and are increasingly focussed on community fund raising rather than external. We are assessing and analysing how we can become self-sufficient for funding in the medium to long term via local business and community collaboration and donations.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Queen's Park and Charminster Neighbourhood Forum is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation – a CIO Association, registered with the Charity Commission on 24th February 2021. The CIO constitution was updated in Q2 2025, and registered with the Charity Commission in July 2025.

Charity Trustees

Every charity trustee must be a natural person aged 16 or more. There should be not less than 3 nor more than 12 appointed trustees. Subject to this maximum number, the members or the charity trustees may at any time decide to appoint a new charity trustee. The charity trustees shall manage the affairs of the CIO and may for that purpose exercise all the powers of the CIO.

Trustee Induction and Training

All Trustees are provided with a copy of the Charity Commission's guidance, CC3 – 'The Essential Trustee' and C15b – 'Charity Reporting and Accounting: The Essentials'.

In addition, Trustees have access to a range of Community Action Network (CAN) training courses, such as 'Being a Charity Trustee' and 'Better Governance'.

Reference and Administrative Information

<u>Charity Name</u>	Queen's Park and Charminster Neighbourhood Forum
<u>Charity Registration Number</u>	1193563
<u>Registered Office</u>	124 City Road London EC1V 2NX
<u>Trustees</u>	Karen Laird (Chair) Richard Perry (Secretary) William Lennon (Treasurer) Mark Anderson Jessie Hewison
<u>Bankers</u>	HSBC Old Christchurch Road Bournemouth BH1 1EH

Financial Statements				
<u>Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA)</u>				
	2024/25	2024/25	2023/24	2023/24
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Donations	-	155	-	-
Locality	-	9,970	-	-
Expenditure				
Bank charges	79	-	60	-
Locality expenses	8079	-	-	-
Charity expenses	364	-	-	-
(Deficit) / Surplus of Income over Expenditure	-	1,603	-	(60)
<u>Balance Sheet</u>				
	31/3/25	31/3/25	31/3/24	31/3/24
	£	£	£	£
Bank	-	5,242	-	3,644
<i>Locality</i> – Pending Repayment (Unspent Grant)	872	-	-	-
Deferred Income – Co-Op Community Fund	2,416	-	2,416	-
Creditors (Bank Charges)	-	-	5	-
EOY Sub-total (Creditors)	3,288	-	2,421	-
Net Assets	-	1,954	-	1,223
Funds Brought Forward	-	1,223	-	1,283
Net Funds Applied in Year	-	731	-	60
Outstanding liabilities	-	-	-	-
Funds Carried Forward	-	1,954	-	1,223

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Contents

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Achievements and Performance	2
Plans for Future Periods	3
Our Aims and Objectives	3
How our Activities Deliver Public Benefit	5
Financial Review	5
Risk Management	5
Structure, Governance and Management	5
Reference and Administrative Information	6

Financial Statements

Statement of Financial Activities for the Period Ended 31 March 2024	7
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024	7

Achievements and Performance

The Queen's Park Neighbourhood Forum was designated by Bournemouth Borough Council on 6th April 2018. In the year prior to this, a number of public consultation activities took place, which indicated positive support for the establishment of a neighbourhood forum for the Queen's Park ward area.

A local authority reorganisation formed Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) Council on 1st April 2019 and local ward boundaries changed with effect from that date. The Neighbourhood Forum's Designated Area currently remains the former Queen's Park Ward boundaries, which are Charminster Road in the East, Queen's Park Avenue in the North, Wessex Way to the West and the railway line to the South. The exception to this former ward boundary is that our Neighbourhood Forum's Designated Area takes in both sides of Charminster Road, as an important local district for shopping, eating and other recreation.

In 2019, the Neighbourhood Forum's Annual General Meeting agreed to seek registration as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and to rebrand as Queen's Park and Charminster Neighbourhood Forum, which was felt to be a more representative name for our area. After a pause in the Charity Commission approval processes due to the pandemic; on 24th February 2021, our application was successfully registered and Queen's Park and Charminster Neighbourhood Forum became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

To develop a Neighbourhood Plan for the Neighbourhood Area, any neighbourhood planning policies proposed must be in general conformance with the strategic planning policies set out within the adopted Local Plan. Unfortunately, the existing Local Plan for Bournemouth is very old – a Bournemouth Core Strategy dated 2012 which incorporates some saved planning policies from a 2002 Local Plan is the 'current' Local Plan for the area. In the absence of the context of a current Local Plan, it has not proven possible to advance the development of a Neighbourhood Plan for our Designated Area.

From January to March 2022, Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole (BCP) Council held a Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation, which our Neighbourhood Forum's Chair responded to. BCP Council's aim had been to have a new Local Plan covering Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole adopted by summer 2023, but this target date slipped, partly because the response rate to the Council's Issues and Options Consultation was poor.

In March 2024, BCP Council considered a draft Local Plan and approved this for public consultation. The Public Consultation runs from 20th March until 3rd May 2024. In parallel, a consultation exercise on the BCP Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) draft charging schedule will run from 25th April to 6th June 2024.

It is evident from the number of objections which some individual planning applications receive that many members of the general population have strong views about planning decisions and their impact on where they live. Also, the attendance that our Neighbourhood Forum achieved when we have held public meetings in the past strongly suggests that people value having the opportunity to get together to discuss what they appreciate in their locality and what positive changes they would like to see. Local residents have shown their support by delivering leaflets to promote Neighbourhood Forum meetings and thanks go to everyone who has provided such assistance over the years.

At the 9th July 2022 Annual General Meeting, our Trustees shared with attendees the watershed point that the Neighbourhood Forum was at – they advised that whilst they each firmly believed in the Charitable Incorporated Organisation and the value which it has the potential to bring to the locality, they did not alone have the capacity to advance the organisation's aims. Trustees sought to identify what appetite existed for the Queen's Park and Charminster Neighbourhood Forum to continue, in particular whether any people within our neighbourhood area were willing and able to take on the role of Charity Trustee and what skills and experience anyone would be able to contribute which could make a tangible difference to the development of the neighbourhood planning policies which are required to underpin the drafting of a neighbourhood plan.

Unfortunately, whilst there was clearly expressed support for the Neighbourhood Forum to continue, this did not galvanize into the identification of a critical mass of people with the time, interest, skills and commitment to make progress with the drafting of the neighbourhood planning policies which would comprise our Neighbourhood Plan. The charity trustees, being mindful that a core trustee responsibility is to advance the objects of the charitable incorporated organisation, and conscious that the Board of Trustees was not then achieving this took a decision that if this did not change by the end of the 2023/24 year, they would approach the Charity Commission to seek to wind up the charity.

There were local elections in the BCP area in May 2023, which resulted in two new ward councillors. The trustees have liaised positively with Cllr Sharon Carr-Brown and Cllr Alasdair Keddie, who are both enthusiasts for the neighbourhood planning process. At a meeting with the Board of Trustees on 26th January 2024, they acknowledged the existing trustees' desire to stand down on or before 31st March 2024 but expressed confidence that there were other local people who wished to drive forward with the CIO's objectives, including to develop a Neighbourhood Plan.

As at 31st March 2024, Roger Tomlins and Michael Rowland stood down as trustees and three new trustees – James Sheehy, Karen Laird and Jessica Hewison were appointed to the Board of Trustees.

Plans for Future Periods

The initial couple of months of the 2024/25 year will be spent in building the new Board of Trustees, to handover historic information and to bring on board other people willing and able to act as trustees (up to the maximum permitted of 12 people).

As noted above, BCP Council has commenced two consultation exercises on the draft Local Plan and the draft charging schedule for the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), which have consultation closing dates of 3rd May and 6th June 2024 respectively. These are important documents for future local planning policy, which will need to be considered and a response submitted as trustees think appropriate.

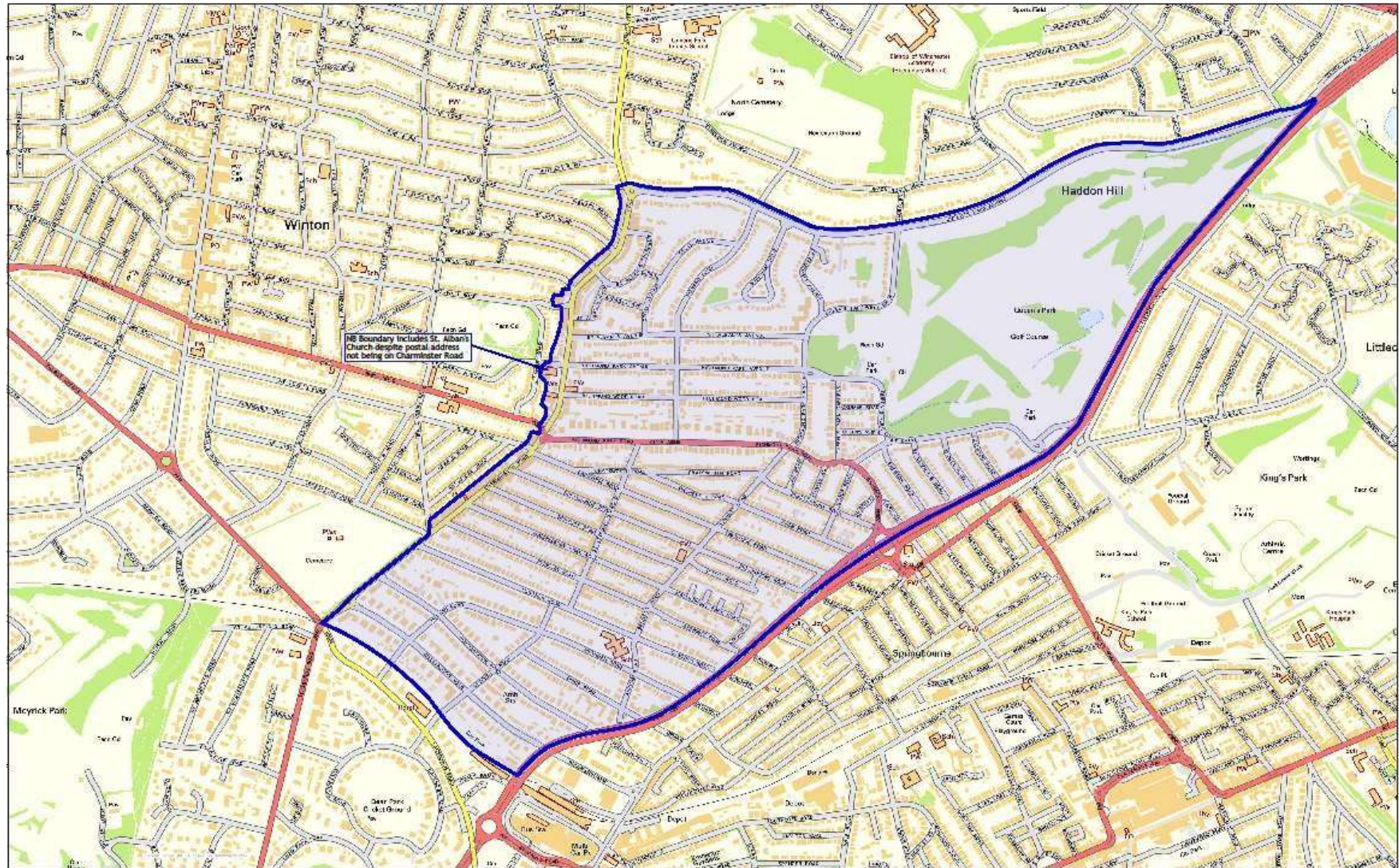
The Neighbourhood Forum was originally designated for a period of five years on 6th April 2018. There should have been a consultation exercise led by BCP Council to re-designate the area on the fifth anniversary, but due to the workload of the democratic services team this cannot happen until after the significant consultation exercises mentioned above. This gives an opportunity for the incoming Board of Trustees to consider whether the pre-April-2019 ward boundary remains the best Neighbourhood Area to designate for the Neighbourhood Plan, or if an alternative map should be specified. This question will require careful consideration, with input from our membership and the wider population.

Our Aims and Objectives

The object of Queen's Park and Charminster Neighbourhood Forum, as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) is:

1. To promote high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting the Neighbourhood Area.
2. To educate the public in the geography, history, natural history, culture and architecture of the Neighbourhood Area.
3. To secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features or areas of historic or public interest in the Neighbourhood Area.

In furtherance of the above objects, but not otherwise, the trustees shall have the power to establish a neighbourhood forum for the Neighbourhood Area (within the blue boundary lines on the following map) to promote and or improve the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area.



Queen's Park Ward Area Neighbourhood Forum boundary: —
 Boundary revised post-consultation to include verge (not properties) north of Queen's Park Avenue plus the Flyways roundabout.
 Scale 1/10000 Centre = 410107 E 93038 N Date 14/9/2017 QP Neighbourhood boundary v.2 11/3/2018

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The scale indicated on this drawing is approximate only
 and should not be used for taking accurate measurements.

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How our Activities Deliver Public Benefit

We deliver public benefit through holding Neighbourhood Forum meetings which facilitate community engagement in dialogue about i) promoting high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting the Neighbourhood Area; ii) educating the public in the geography, history, natural history, culture and architecture of the Neighbourhood Area; and iii) securing the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features or areas of historic or public interest in the Neighbourhood Area.

Financial Review

During the year, the CIO did not advance any activities in furtherance of its objectives. Expenditure in the year was limited to bank charges, which totalled £60.

The CIO did not recognise any income during the year ended 31st March 2024. The deficit for the year was therefore £60.

As at 31st March 2024, the CIO held cash at bank totalling £3,644, £2,416 of which is deferred income which had been received from the Co-Op Community Fund.

As at the end of the year, the CIO had £1,223 unrestricted funds, the original source of which was Bournemouth Council's Local Improvement Fund (LIF) and we remain grateful to our former ward councillors for arranging for this to be allocated to advance the Neighbourhood Forum's aims.

Risk Management

The Trustees have considered the major risks to which the charity is exposed.

Recent years have seen a rapid change in planning law and national planning policy, such as changes to what is permitted development. The ability of the emerging Local Plan to appropriately respond to these changes is a risk consideration, as decisions made at this conurbation-wide level will impact on the formation of a Neighbourhood Plan for the locality, due to any neighbourhood planning policies being required to be in general conformity with the adopted Local Plan.

The most significant risk faced by our CIO is the availability of people with the time, skills, knowledge and commitment to dedicate to advancing the charity's work. The former Trustees reached a watershed point whereby they wished to step down from the Board of Trustees and therefore the future of the Neighbourhood Forum is now in the hands of the people (between three and twelve in number) who generously indicate that they are willing and able to take on the role of trustee and to positively take forward the neighbourhood planning agenda.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

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<u>Charity Registration Number</u>	1193563
<u>Registered Office</u>	67 St Alban's Avenue Bournemouth BH8 9EG
<u>Trustees</u>	Julie Currin Jessica Hewison (appointed 31 st March 2024) Karen Laird (appointed 31 st March 2024) William Lennon (appointed 10 th April 2024) Michael Rowland (resigned 31 st March 2024) James Sheehy (appointed 31 st March, resigned 10 th April 2024) Roger Tomlins (resigned 31 st March 2024)
<u>Bankers</u>	HSBC Old Christchurch Road Bournemouth BH1 1EH

Financial Statements

Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA)

	2023/34 £s	2023/24 £s	2022/23 £s	2022/23 £s
Income		-		-
Bank Charges	60		61	
Expenditure		60		61
(Deficit) / Surplus of Income over Expenditure		(60)		(61)

Balance Sheet

	31/3/24 £s	31/3/24 £s	31/3/23 £s	31/3/23 £s
Bank		3,644		3,704
Groundworks – Repayment of Grant	-		-	
Deferred Income – Co-Op Community Fund	2,416		2,416	
Bank Charge re March	5		5	
Sub-total Creditors		2,421		2,421
Net Assets		1,223		1,283
Funds Brought Forward	1,283		1,344	
Funds Applied in Year	60		61	
Funds Carried Forward		1,223		1,283

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Contents

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Achievements and Performance	2
Plans for Future Periods	3
Our Aims and Objectives	3
How our Activities Deliver Public Benefit	5
Financial Review	5
Risk Management	5
Structure, Governance and Management	5
Reference and Administrative Information	6

Financial Statements

Statement of Financial Activities for the Period Ended 31 March 2023	7
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023	7

Achievements and Performance

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A local authority reorganisation formed Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) Council on 1st April 2019 and local ward boundaries changed with effect from that date. The Neighbourhood Forum's Designated Area remains the former Queen's Park Ward boundaries, which are Charminster Road in the East, Queen's Park Avenue in the North, Wessex Way to the West and the railway line to the South. The exception to this former ward boundary is that our Neighbourhood Forum's Designated Area takes in both sides of Charminster Road, as an important local district for shopping, eating and other recreation.

In 2019, the Neighbourhood Forum's Annual General Meeting agreed to seek registration as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and to rebrand as Queen's Park and Charminster Neighbourhood Forum, which was felt to be a more representative name for our area. After a pause in the Charity Commission approval processes due to the pandemic; on 24th February 2021, our application was successfully registered and Queen's Park and Charminster Neighbourhood Forum became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

To develop a Neighbourhood Plan for the Neighbourhood Area, any neighbourhood planning policies proposed must be in general conformance with the strategic planning policies set out within the adopted Local Plan. Unfortunately, the existing Local Plan for Bournemouth is very old – a Bournemouth Core Strategy dated 2012 which incorporates some saved planning policies from a 2002 Local Plan is the 'current' Local Plan for the area. In the absence of the context of a current Local Plan, it has not proven possible to advance the development of a Neighbourhood Plan for our Designated Area.

From January to March 2022, Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole (BCP) Council held a Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation, which our Neighbourhood Forum's Chair responded to. BCP Council's aim had been to have a new Local Plan covering Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole adopted by summer 2023, but this target date slipped, partly because the response rate to the Council's Issues and Options Consultation was poor. It is believed that the Council is now aiming to have a draft Local Plan available by January 2024, when it will be subject to a six-week public consultation exercise.

It is evident from the number of objections which some individual planning applications receive that many members of the general population have strong views about planning decisions and their impact on where they live. Also, the attendance that our Neighbourhood Forum achieved when we have held public meetings in the past strongly suggests that people value having the opportunity to get together to discuss what they appreciate in their locality and what positive changes they would like to see. Local residents have shown their support by delivering leaflets to promote Neighbourhood Forum meetings and thanks go to everyone who has provided such assistance over the years.

Our Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday 9th July 2022 at the Woodpecker Café, Queen's Park, Bournemouth. The Trustees shared with attendees the watershed point that the Neighbourhood Forum was at – they advised that whilst they each firmly believed in the Charitable Incorporated Organisation and the value which it has the potential to bring to the locality, did not alone have the capacity to advance the organisation's aims. Trustees sought to identify what appetite existed for the Queen's Park and Charminster Neighbourhood Forum to continue, in particular whether any people within our neighbourhood area are willing and able to take on the role of Charity Trustee and what skills and experience anyone would be able to contribute which could make a tangible difference to the development of the neighbourhood planning policies which are required to underpin the drafting of a neighbourhood plan.

Unfortunately, whilst there was clearly expressed support for the Neighbourhood Forum to continue, this has not galvanized into the identification of a critical mass of people with the time, interest, skills and commitment to make progress with the drafting of the neighbourhood planning policies which would

comprise our Neighbourhood Plan. Therefore, there are no achievements to report relating to the year ended 31st March 2023.

Plans for Future Periods

The charity trustees are mindful that a core trustee responsibility is to advance the objects of the charitable incorporated organisation. The trustees, which currently number three, are conscious that the Board of Trustees is not presently achieving this and if this does not change by the end of the 2023/24 year, they intend to approach the Charity Commission to seek to wind up the charity.

There are local elections in the BCP area in May 2023 and the trustees hope to continue to liaise positively with our ward councillors, including by seeking opportunities for funding, such as via the council's Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), to be applied to improvements in the public realm which would benefit people who live or work within our neighbourhood area - for example to seek to secure safe pedestrian routes to access Queen's Park, an amenity space that the pandemic affirmed to us positively impacts on the health and wellbeing of the local population.

We will support ward councillors as they seek to identify what appetite exists for the Queen's Park and Charminster Neighbourhood Forum to continue - in particular whether there exist between three and twelve people within our neighbourhood area who could make a tangible difference to the development of the neighbourhood planning policies required to underpin the drafting of a neighbourhood plan, and who are willing and able to take on the role of Charity Trustee.

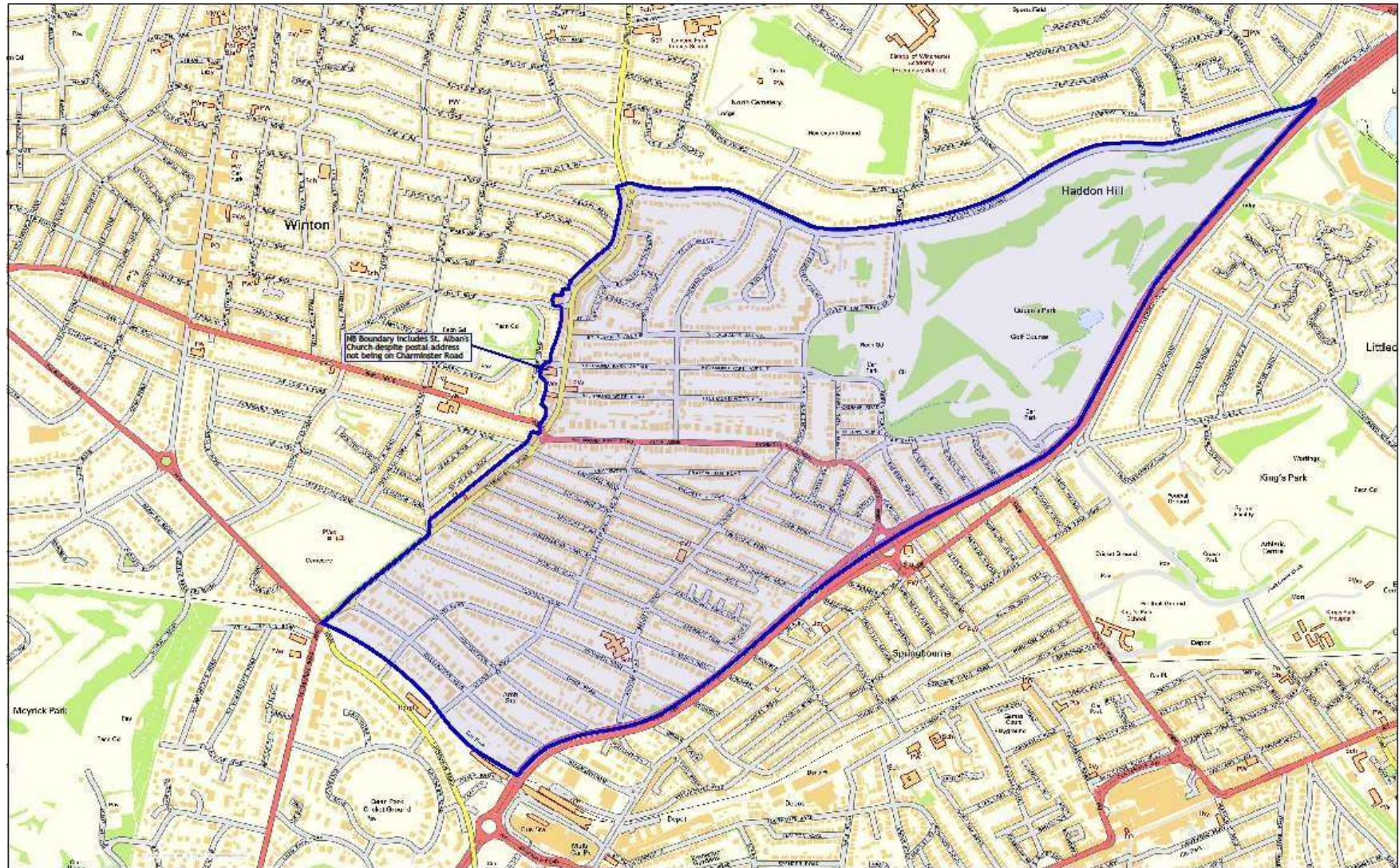
The Neighbourhood Forum was designated for an initial period of five years. We anticipate that the local authority will contact us early in the 2023/24 year regarding whether or not the present Queen's Park and Charminster Neighbourhood Forum should continue, and if so whether there should be any changes made to its designated area. Both of these questions will require careful consideration, with input from our membership and the wider neighbourhood population.

Our Aims and Objectives

The object of Queen's Park and Charminster Neighbourhood Forum, as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) is:

1. To promote high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting the Neighbourhood Area.
2. To educate the public in the geography, history, natural history, culture and architecture of the Neighbourhood Area.
3. To secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features or areas of historic or public interest in the Neighbourhood Area.

In furtherance of the above objects, but not otherwise, the trustees shall have the power to establish a neighbourhood forum for the Neighbourhood Area (within the blue boundary lines on the following map) to promote and or improve the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area.



Queen's Park Ward Area Neighbourhood Forum boundary: —
 Boundary revised post-consultation to include verge (not properties) north of Queen's Park Avenue plus the Flyways roundabout.

Scale 1/10000

Centre = 410107 E 93038 N

Date 14/9/2017

QP Neighbourhood boundary v.2 11/3/2018

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The scale indicated on this drawing is approximate only
 and should not be used for taking accurate measurements.

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How our Activities Deliver Public Benefit

We deliver public benefit through holding Neighbourhood Forum meetings which facilitate community engagement in dialogue about i) promoting high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting the Neighbourhood Area; ii) educating the public in the geography, history, natural history, culture and architecture of the Neighbourhood Area; and iii) securing the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features or areas of historic or public interest in the Neighbourhood Area.

Financial Review

During the year, the CIO's only activity was to hold a public meeting in July 2023, for which no costs were incurred. Expenditure in the year was limited to bank charges, which totalled £61.

The CIO did not recognise any income during the year ended 31st March 2023. The deficit for the year was therefore £61.

As at 31st March 2023, the CIO held cash at bank totalling £3,704, £2,416 of which is deferred income which had been received from the Co-Op Community Fund.

As at the end of the year, the CIO had £1,283 unrestricted funds, the original source of which was Bournemouth Council's Local Improvement Fund (LIF) and we remain grateful to our ward councillors for arranging for this to be allocated to advance the Neighbourhood Forum's aims.

Risk Management

The Trustees have considered the major risks to which the charity is exposed.

Recent years have seen a rapid change in planning law and national planning policy, such as changes to what is permitted development. The ability of the emerging Local Plan to appropriately respond to these changes is a risk consideration, as decisions made at this conurbation-wide level will impact on the formation of a Neighbourhood Plan for the locality, due to any neighbourhood planning policies being required to be in general conformity with the adopted Local Plan.

The most significant risk faced by our CIO is the availability of people with the time, skills, knowledge and commitment to dedicate to advancing the charity's work. The present Trustees have reached a watershed point whereby they wish to step down from the Board of Trustees and therefore if the Neighbourhood Forum is to continue, between three and twelve of people willing and able to take on the role of trustee to positively take forward the neighbourhood planning agenda are needed.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Queen's Park and Charminster Neighbourhood Forum is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation – a CIO Association, registered with the Charity Commission on 24th February 2021.

Charity Trustees

Every charity trustee must be a natural person aged 16 or more. There should be not less than 3 nor more than 12 appointed trustees. Subject to this maximum number, the members or the charity trustees may at any time decide to appoint a new charity trustee.

The charity trustees shall manage the affairs of the CIO and may for that purpose exercise all the powers of the CIO.

Trustee Induction and Training

All Trustees are provided with a copy of the Charity Commission's guidance, CC3 – 'The Essential Trustee' and C15b – 'Charity Reporting and Accounting: The Essentials'.

In addition, Trustees have access to a range of Bournemouth & Poole Council for Voluntary Services (CVS) training courses, such as 'Being a Charity Trustee' and 'Better Governance'.

Reference and Administrative Information

<u>Charity Name</u>	Queen's Park and Charminster Neighbourhood Forum
<u>Charity Registration Number</u>	1193563
<u>Registered Office</u>	67 St Alban's Avenue Bournemouth BH8 9EG
<u>Trustees</u>	Julie Currin Sarah Newell (resigned January 2023) Michael Rowland Roger Tomlins
<u>Bankers</u>	HSBC Old Christchurch Road Bournemouth BH1 1EH

Financial Statements

Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA)

	2022/23	2022/23	2021/22	2021/22
	£s	£s	£s	£s
Brought forward from Unincorporated Organisation	-		1,315	
Groundworks Grant Funding	-		285	
Income		-		1,600
Internet	-		154	
Insurance	-		81	
Bank Charges	61		20	
Expenditure		61		256
(Deficit) / Surplus of Income over Expenditure		(61)		1,344

Balance Sheet

	31/3/23	31/3/23	31/3/22	31/3/22
	£s	£s	£s	£s
Bank		3,704		13,480
Groundworks – Repayment of Grant	-		9,714	
Deferred Income – Co-Op Community Fund	2,416		2,416	
Bank Charge re March	5		5	
Sub-total Creditors		2,421		12,135
Net Assets		1,283		1,344
Funds Brought Forward	1,344		1,365	
Funds Applied in Year	61		20	
Funds Carried Forward		1,283		1,344

QUEEN'S PARK AND CHARMINSTER NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

England & Wales - Charity number 1193653

Accounts



**Queen's Park and Charminster Neighbourhood Forum
(a charitable incorporated organisation)**

**Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 March 2022**

Charity Number: 1193653

Contents

	Page
Report of the Trustees for the Period Ended 31 March 2022	
Achievements and Performance	2
Plans for Future Periods	3
Our Aims and Objectives	3
How our Activities Deliver Public Benefit	5
Financial Review	5
Risk Management	5
Structure, Governance and Management	5
Reference and Administrative Information	6
Financial Statements	
Statement of Financial Activities for the Period Ended 31 March 2022	7
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2022	7

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Achievements and Performance

The Queen's Park Neighbourhood Forum was designated by Bournemouth Borough Council on 6th April 2018. In the year prior to this, a number of public consultation activities took place, which indicated positive support for the establishment of a neighbourhood forum for the Queen's Park ward area.

A local authority reorganisation formed Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) Council on 1st April 2019 and local ward boundaries changed with effect from that date. The Neighbourhood Forum's Designated Area remains the former Queen's Park Ward boundaries, which are Charminster Road in the East, Queen's Park Avenue in the North, Wessex Way to the West and the railway line to the South. The exception to this former ward boundary is that our Neighbourhood Forum's Designated Area takes in both sides of Charminster Road, as an important local district for shopping, eating and other recreation.

In 2019, the Neighbourhood Forum's Annual General Meeting agreed to seek registration as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and to rebrand as Queen's Park and Charminster Neighbourhood Forum, which was felt to be a more representative name for our area.

A public meeting had been planned for March 2020, but sadly this had to be cancelled due to the National Lockdown associated with the global coronavirus pandemic. The pandemic also meant that there was a pause on the Charity Commission's approval processes and it wasn't until 24th February 2021 that our application was successfully registered and Queen's Park and Charminster Neighbourhood Forum became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

A public meeting of the Neighbourhood Forum was held in March 2021 by Zoom. Whilst it was positive to try to keep dialogue going during the pandemic, the format of virtual meetings inevitably had an adverse impact on the level and content of public engagement.

A face-to-face meeting was planned for March 2022, but the prevalence of Covid-19 cases at that time meant there remained a nervousness regarding public gatherings and regrettably this meeting did not happen.

From 10th January to 25th March 2022, BCP Council held a Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation, which our Chair submitted a personal response to. This consultation related to the development of a Local Plan, something which should set the Strategic Planning policies for the conurbation, which any Neighbourhood Plan must be in general conformance with. The existing Local Plan for Bournemouth is very old – a Bournemouth Core Strategy dated 2012 which incorporates some saved planning policies from a 2002 Local Plan is the 'current' Local Plan for the area. BCP Council's aim had been to have a new Local Plan covering Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole adopted by summer 2023, but this target date has now slipped to Winter 2024, partly because the response rate to the Council's Issues and Options Consultation was poor.

It is evident from the number of objections which some individual planning applications receive that many members of the general population have strong views about planning decisions and their impact on where they live. Also, the attendance that our Neighbourhood Forum achieved when we have held public meetings in the past strongly suggest that people value having the opportunity to get together to discuss what they appreciate in their locality and what positive changes they would like to see. Local residents have shown their support by delivering leaflets to promote Neighbourhood Forum meetings and thanks go to everyone who has provided such assistance over the years.

Unfortunately, the support which exists for the Neighbourhood Forum to continue has not galvanized into the identification of a critical mass of people with the time, interest, skills and

commitment to make progress with the drafting of the neighbourhood planning policies which would comprise our Neighbourhood Plan.

As we close the year ended 31st March 2022, the Queen's Park and Charminster Neighbourhood Forum is at a watershed point. The four Trustees, whilst they each firmly believe in the Charitable Incorporated Organisation and the value which it has the potential to bring to the locality, do not alone have the capacity to advance our organisational aims.

Plans for Future Periods

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday 9th July 2022 at the Woodpecker Café, Queen's Park, Bournemouth. This will be an opportunity for the four Trustees to share with attendees the crossroads which we have reached.

We will seek to identify what appetite exists for the Queen's Park and Charminster Neighbourhood Forum to continue, in particular whether any people within our neighbourhood area are willing and able to take on the role of Charity Trustee and what skills and experience anyone would be able to contribute which could make a tangible difference to the development of the neighbourhood planning policies which are required to underpin the drafting of a neighbourhood plan.

During the 2022/23 year, we will follow with interest any progress which BCP Council makes towards the development of a Local Plan for the conurbation. In particular, if opportunities present to contribute views in respect of our Queen's Park and Charminster neighbourhood we will respond to these.

We will continue to liaise positively with our local councillors and will seek opportunities for funding, such as via the council's Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), to be applied to improvements in the public realm which would benefit people who live or work within our neighbourhood area, for example to seek to secure safe pedestrian routes to access Queen's Park, an amenity space that the pandemic affirmed to us positively impacts on the health and wellbeing of the local population.

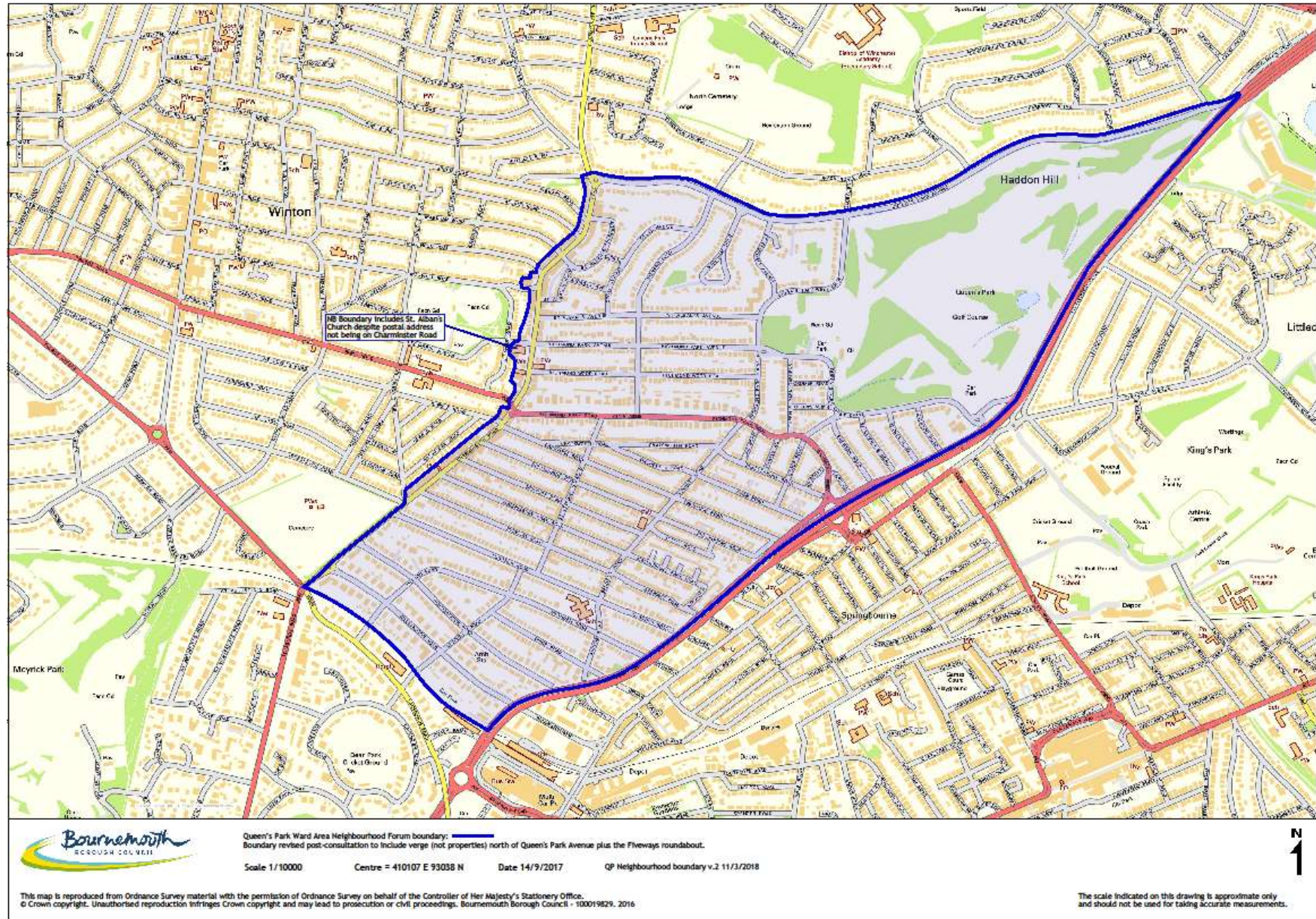
The Neighbourhood Forum was designated for an initial period of five years. In April 2023, we anticipate that the local authority will contact us regarding whether or not the present Queen's Park and Charminster Neighbourhood Forum should continue, and if so whether there should be any changes made to its designated area. Both of these questions will require careful consideration, with input from our membership and the wider neighbourhood population.

Our Aims and Objectives

The object of Queen's Park and Charminster Neighbourhood Forum, as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) is:

1. To promote high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting the Neighbourhood Area.
2. To educate the public in the geography, history, natural history, culture and architecture of the Neighbourhood Area.
3. To secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features or areas of historic or public interest in the Neighbourhood Area.

In furtherance of the above objects, but not otherwise, the trustees shall have the power to establish a neighbourhood forum for the Neighbourhood Area (within the blue boundary lines on the following map) to promote and or improve the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area.



How our Activities Deliver Public Benefit

We deliver public benefit through holding Neighbourhood Forum meetings which facilitate community engagement in dialogue about i) promoting high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting the Neighbourhood Area; ii) educating the public in the geography, history, natural history, culture and architecture of the Neighbourhood Area; and iii) securing the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features or areas of historic or public interest in the Neighbourhood Area.

Financial Review

During the year, the CIO's activities were curtailed by the impacts of the global pandemic. Expenditure incurred was limited to IT website costs, public indemnity insurance and bank charges. Costs of these items totaled £255.

The CIO recognised income from two sources during the year ended 31st March 2022. Grant funding of £285 was received from Groundwork UK, the organisation which administers the Government's programme for the development of neighbourhood forums. Additionally, on incorporation the CIO received the benefit of £1,315 unrestricted income which had previously been provided to its predecessor organisation. The original source of this money was Bournemouth Council's Local Improvement Fund (LIF) and we remain grateful to our ward councilors for arranging for this to be allocated to advance our aims.

The surplus for the 2021/22 year was £1,345.

Risk Management

The Trustees have considered the major risks to which the charity is exposed.

Recent years have seen a rapid change in planning law and national planning policy, such as changes to what is permitted development. The ability of the emerging Local Plan to appropriately respond to these changes is a risk consideration, as decisions made at this conurbation-wide level will impact on the formation of a Neighbourhood Plan for the locality, due to any neighbourhood planning policies being required to be in general conformity with the adopted Local Plan.

The most significant risk faced by our CIO is the availability of people with the time, skills, knowledge and commitment to dedicate to advancing the charity's work. The present Trustees have reached a watershed point whereby they need considerable additional input from others to positively take forward the neighbourhood planning agenda.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Queen's Park and Charminster Neighbourhood Forum is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation – a CIO Association, registered with the Charity Commission on 24th February 2021.

Charity Trustees

Every charity trustee must be a natural person aged 16 or more. There should be not less than 3 nor more than 12 appointed trustees. Subject to this maximum number, the members or the charity trustees may at any time decide to appoint a new charity trustee.

The charity trustees shall manage the affairs of the CIO and may for that purpose exercise all the powers of the CIO.

Trustee Induction and Training

All Trustees are provided with a copy of the Charity Commission's guidance, CC3 – 'The Essential Trustee' and C15b – 'Charity Reporting and Accounting: The Essentials'.

In addition, Trustees have access to a range of Bournemouth & Poole Council for Voluntary Services (CVS) training courses, such as 'Being a Charity Trustee' and 'Better Governance'.

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<u>Trustees</u>	Julie Currin Sarah Newell Michael Rowland Roger Tomlins
<u>Bankers</u>	HSBC 59 Old Christchurch Bournemouth, BH1 1EH

Financial Statements

Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) for Year Ended 31 March 2022

Income

Income from:	2022
	£s
Predecessor unincorporated organisation	1,315
Groundwork UK	285
Total Income	1,600

Expenditure

Analysis of Expenditure:	2022
	£s
IT internet costs	154
Public liability insurance	81
Bank charges	20
Total Expenditure	255

Net surplus for the period	1,345
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Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2022

	2022
	£s
Cash at bank and in hand	13,481
Current assets	13,481
<u>Creditors</u>	
Repayment of Groundwork Grant Received not Expended	9,715
Deferred Income – Co-Op Community Fund	2,416
Bank Charges	5
Total assets less liabilities	12,136
Total net assets	1,345
Charity Funds - Unrestricted reserves	1,345