

The Company of Players (Hertford) CIO

(A Member of the Little Theatre Guild of Great Britain)

Registered Charity No. 1194040

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

THE COMPANY OF PLAYERS (HERTFORD) CIO – no. 1194040
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mr Chris Janes	-	Chair	appointed 18 October 2023
Mr Theo Berkhout	-	Treasurer	
Ms Hannah Leonard	-	Secretary	appointed 9 May 2024
Mr Derek Palmer			
Mr Andrew Lee			
Mrs Angela Reiss			appointed 17 June 2024
Mr Jonathan Wallis			appointed 9 May 2024

The charity's address is The Little Theatre, 6 Christchurch Place, Balfour Street, Hertford SG14 3BB.

OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES

The charity's main objectives are:

- To educate the public in the dramatic and operatic arts
- To further the development of public appreciation and taste in the said arts

ACHIEVEMENT & PERFORMANCE

The Company of Players (Hertford) known as CoPs as a theatre company has been in existence for 60 years. Charitable status was granted in April 2021. This will enable CoPs to raise funding to develop the theatre. The charity has been granted planning permission for this.

The key achievements during the year to 31 July 2024 were productions of:

- The Cane -
- Rules for Living -
- Dial M For Murder -
- The Bright & Bold Design -
- The Invisible Men -

Plans to develop the theatre are progressing. We have managed to secure nearly £50,000, for the Theatre Development Fund with kind donations coming from many people, but there is still some way to go to reach our target figure of £80,000 of internal funding. In addition to the £80k internal fundraising referenced, an additional approx £270-320k is sought in grant funding for the extension. Bringing this Victorian building into the 21st century is a major challenge but the addition of accessible toilets, air conditioning in the auditorium and an enlarged foyer will make a visit to our wonderful theatre a more pleasant experience. Coupled with massively improved audience comfort the planned extension will also improve our backstage facilities allowing for better changing facilities and access to the stage left entrance.

We have relaunched our Youth Group In conjunction with Mimic Theatre Company. A grant from East Herts District Council has allowed us to launch the group without charging fees. The intention is to have our Youth Group perform in the Little Theatre at least once a year as well as having younger actors on hand for casting.

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FINANCE

CoPS made a surplus of £8,524 (2023 – deficit of £2,961). Income was £44,066 compared with £30,435 in 2023. Expenditure was £35,242 compared with £31,126 in 2023.

The charity has unrestricted cash funds of £48,644 (2023- £40,597) and restricted cash funds of £19,465 (2023 - £14,309) giving total cash resources of £68,110 (2023 - £54,903). The charity also owns the theatre building and has fixed assets of £559,000 (2023 - £559,000) giving total reserves of £627,410 (2023 -£618,886).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and its constitution is one with voting members other than its charity trustees.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 8 March 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Chris Janes

Mr Chris Janes

Chair

**Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of
The Company of Players (Hertford) CIO
on the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2024**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the CIO for the year ended 31 July 2024.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) does not apply.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions of the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

Beverley Turner

Chartered Accountant
30 The Avenue
Welwyn
Herts.
AL6 0PP

Dated - 8 March 2025

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BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 JULY 2024

2023		2024			
		Restricted Theatre	Restricted 100 Club	Unrestricted	Total
£	FIXED ASSETS				£
15,000	Land	15,000			15,000
524,900	Buildings	524,900			524,900
20,000	Equipment	20,000			20,000
559,900	Total Fixed Assets	559,900			559,900
CURRENT ASSETS					
<u>Unrestricted</u>					
4,798	Current Account			3,296	3,296
35,796	Active Saver Account			40,321	40,321
	Gift aid due			648	648
4,083	Production costs pre-paid			4,379	4,379
44,677		0	0	48,644	48,644
<u>Restricted</u>					
12,180	Theatre Development Fund	18,101			18,101
567	100 Club		792		792
1,562	100 Club Deposit Account		573		573
14,309		18,101	1,365	0	19,465
58,986		18,101	1,365	48,644	68,110
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
	Accrued expenses			600	600
		0	0	600	600
618,886	Total net assets	578,001	1,365	48,044	627,410
Financed by:					
178,208	reserves brought forward	128,441	2,129	44,677	175,247
	Surplus	3,221	736	4,567	8,524
(2,961)	Deficit				
	Transfers between funds	2,700	(1,500)	(1,200)	0
175,247	Reserves carried forward	134,362	1,365	48,044	183,771
443,639	Revaluation reserve	443,639			443,639
618,886		578,001	1,365	48,044	627,410

Signed

Chris Janes

Date

8 March 2025

The Company of Players (Hertford) CIO
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Income & Expenditure Account
For the year ended 31 July 2024

		Restricted	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
		Theatre	100 club	General	2024
2023	Development Fund				
£	INCOME	£	£	£	£
6,083	Membership Subscriptions	17		6,332	6,349
296	Donations	3,010		200	3,210
22,281	Production Income			31,969	31,969
1,534	100 Club		1,145	15	1,160
	Gift aid due			648	648
242	Bank Interest	194	11	525	731
30,435	Total Income	3,221	1,156	39,689	44,066
£	EXPENDITURE				£
368	100 Club prizes		420	25	445
3	Administration			0	0
1,287	OBN & Postage			982	982
9,218	Direct Production Expenditure			10,123	10,123
13,246	Theatre Running Costs			15,942	15,942
2,225	Insurance			2,223	2,223
	Independent Examiner fees			600	600
0	Subscriptions refunds			54	54
105	Little Theatre Guild			234	234
45	Donations by CoPs			0	0
4,270	Utilities			3,853	3,853
360	Gardening			785	785
31,126	Expenditure	0	420	34,822	35,242
2,272	Theatre Development	0	0	300	300
33,397	Total Expenditure	0	420	35,122	35,542
	Surplus	3,221	736	4,567	8,524
(2,961)	Deficit				0
30,436		3,221	736	4,567	8,524