

Charity registration number 1194245

ACORN COMMUNITY SUPPORT
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

ACORN COMMUNITY SUPPORT

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees

J Clunie
M MacEacharn
K Cobbold
J Taylor
S MacPherson (Appointed 18 October 2023)
W Endacott (Appointed 18 October 2023)
J Peake (Appointed 18 October 2023)
J Thomas (Appointed 18 October 2023)

Charity number

1194245

Principal address

The Surgery
Layne Fields
Christow
Devon
EX6 7NY

Independent examiner

Mr A Hemmings BA (Hons) FCA CTA
Simpkins Edwards LLP
The Summit
Woodwater Park
Exeter
Devon
EX2 5WS

ACORN COMMUNITY SUPPORT

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ACORN COMMUNITY SUPPORT

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2019)

Objectives and activities

To relieve sickness and preserve health and compliment the medical services provided amongst persons permanently or temporarily resident in the parishes of Ashton, Bridford, Cheriton Bishop, Christow, Doddiscombeigh, Dunsford and Tedburn St Mary all in the county of Devon.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Achievements and performance

Acorn Community Support would like to thank all our volunteers, staff, and trustees for their continued commitment to the charity and to our community members who have continued to benefit and enjoy all the support Acorn can provide.

The kind and generous nature of all our volunteers, to willingly give up their time to lend a helping hand to others, is inspiring and the Trustees would like to extend their heartfelt thanks.

Through the financial year Acorn provided private volunteer transport to 325 clients, through 536 journeys, registering 4,904 miles. The minibuses supported 1,037 clients, through 178 trips, registering a total of 5,483 miles.

The trustees would like to extend their thanks to Devon County Council for their continued support through an annual grant which enables Acorn to continue to deliver these vital services in our rural communities.

Financial review

The charity received income of £40,350 (2023: £32,282), whilst incurring expenditure of £41,726 (2023: £38,887). The charity's reserves at 31 March 2024 stood at £109,566 , a decrease of £1,376 from the opening position of £110,942.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The Trustees have calculated this as £75,000. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

Risk

In order to maintain liquidity, the charity uses a mixture of long-term and short term deposit accounts in order to ensure that sufficient funds are available for ongoing developments and future developments.

ACORN COMMUNITY SUPPORT

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Structure, governance and management

Acorn Community Support is governed by a constitution adopted 27th April 2021 and managed by a group of Trustees. Trustees may be appointed throughout the year, with due process.

As at 31 March 2024, the charity consisted of a board of twelve trustees, an office manager, and a community care manager. The charity is supported by approximately 40 volunteers.

Governance

The trustees meet four times a year and are in regular communication in between formal board meetings.

All potential new trustees and staff members are interviewed by at least three trustees and recommendations for appointment made to the full board for approval.

Trustees and staff are inducted as appropriate for the role.

Management

The trustees operate an open-door policy to ensure availability to staff at all times. Communication with volunteers is largely through telephone and email and the charity utilises Facebook and parish magazines to communicate with the wider community.

Senior staff include:

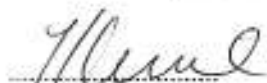
Office Manager
Mandy Vellacott

Community Care Manager
Frances Peake

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mr P Trotter	(Resigned 3 July 2024)
J Clunie	
J Hancock	(Resigned 17 April 2024)
V Logan	(Resigned 11 July 2023)
M MacEacham	
K Cobbold	
P Corbett	(Resigned 3 July 2024)
J Taylor	
S MacPherson	(Appointed 18 October 2023)
W Endacott	(Appointed 18 October 2023)
J Peake	(Appointed 18 October 2023)
J Thomas	(Appointed 18 October 2023)

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



J Clunie
Trustee

Date: 20th September 2024



M MacEacham
Trustee

20/09/2024

ACORN COMMUNITY SUPPORT

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF ACORN COMMUNITY SUPPORT

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Acorn Community Support (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

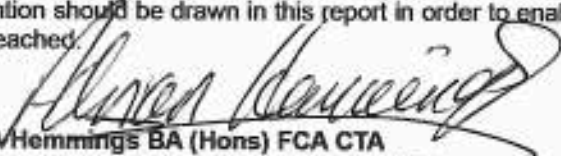
Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.



Mr A Hemmings BA (Hons) FCA CTA
for and on behalf of Simpkins Edwards LLP

The Summit
Woodwater Park
Pynes Hill
Exeter
Devon
EX2 5WS

Dated: 2/10/24

ACORN COMMUNITY SUPPORT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	3	24,393	23,197
Charitable activities	4	9,189	8,396
Other trading activities	5	5,540	-
Investments	6	1,228	689
Total income		40,350	32,282
Charitable activities	7	41,726	38,887
Net expenditure and movement in funds		(1,376)	(6,605)
Reconciliation of funds:			
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		110,942	117,547
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		109,566	110,942

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

ACORN COMMUNITY SUPPORT

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		34,755		38,619
Current assets					
Debtors	13	189		401	
Cash at bank and in hand		77,284		73,864	
		<u>77,473</u>		<u>74,265</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(2,662)</u>		<u>(1,942)</u>	
Net current assets			74,811		72,323
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>109,566</u>		<u>110,942</u>
Income funds					
Unrestricted funds			109,566		110,942
			<u>109,566</u>		<u>110,942</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 20 September 2024

J Clunie
Trustee



M MacEacharn
Trustee



ACORN COMMUNITY SUPPORT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Acorn Community Support is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in England and Wales and is a charitable incorporated organisation. The address of the principal office is The Surgery, Layne Fields, Christow, Exeter, Devon, EX6 7NY.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

1.4 Incoming resources

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and legacies

Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

ACORN COMMUNITY SUPPORT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Resources expended

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Raising funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Motor vehicles	10% reducing balance basis
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The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

ACORN COMMUNITY SUPPORT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations and gifts	6,108	4,291
Government grants	18,285	18,906
	<u>24,393</u>	<u>23,197</u>

ACORN COMMUNITY SUPPORT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

4 Charitable activities

	Charitable Income 2024 £	Charitable Income 2023 £
Hire charges and minibus	7,574	7,916
Group activities	1,615	480
	<u>9,189</u>	<u>8,396</u>

5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Fundraising events	5,540	-
	<u>5,540</u>	<u>-</u>

6 Investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Interest receivable	1,228	689
	<u>1,228</u>	<u>689</u>

ACORN COMMUNITY SUPPORT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

7 Charitable activities

	Charitable Expenditure 2024 £	Charitable Expenditure 2023 £
Depreciation and impairment	3,864	4,292
Cost of private transport	393	537
Memory cafe	100	-
Group activities	1,772	1,928
Minibus costs	6,016	4,547
Accountancy	1,620	1,190
Wages and salaries	22,265	21,233
	<u>36,030</u>	<u>33,727</u>
Support costs	5,696	5,160
	<u>41,726</u>	<u>38,887</u>

8 Independent examiner's remuneration

The analysis of independent examiner's remuneration is as follows:	2024 £	2023 £
Independent examination of the annual accounts	<u>1,620</u>	<u>1,190</u>

9 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

During the year, three trustees were reimbursed £1,006 in relation to expenses incurred (2023: NIL).

10 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Employees	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

ACORN COMMUNITY SUPPORT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Motor vehicles £
Cost	
At 1 April 2023	59,545
At 31 March 2024	59,545
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 April 2023	20,926
Depreciation charged in the year	3,864
At 31 March 2024	24,790
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2024	34,755
At 31 March 2023	38,619

13 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	-	401
Prepayments and accrued income	189	-
	<u>189</u>	<u>401</u>

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals and deferred income	<u>2,662</u>	<u>1,942</u>

ACORN COMMUNITY SUPPORT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

15 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2024 £
General funds	110,942	40,350	(41,726)	109,566
Previous year:	At 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2023 £
General funds	117,547	32,282	(38,887)	110,942

16 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2023 - none).