

ASCAPE

England & Wales · Charity number 1197590

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2022-01-20

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

Contact

Address 3 Nordons
Bridport
Dorset
DT6 4DU

Phone 07754 065733

Email clare@ascapegroup.org

Website <https://ascapegroup.org>

Activities

Objects: PROMOTING SOCIAL INCLUSION AMONG CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS BETWEEN THE AGE OF 0-25 YEARS WITH AUTISTIC SPECTRUM CONDITION (ASC) AND/OR SOCIAL ANXIETY, ESPECIALLY LIVING IN THE COUNTY OF DORSET, WHO ARE EXCLUDED FROM SOCIETY OR PARTS OF SOCIETY, AS A RESULT OF THEIR CONDITION BY:1. HELPING SUCH CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS BECOME BETTER SOCIALISED AND LESS ISOLATED THROUGH THE FACILITATION OF PEER SUPPORT AND SUPPORTED SOCIALISATION.2. SUPPORTING CARERS AND FAMILIES, INCLUDING SIBLINGS, OF SUCH YOUNG PEOPLE BY PROVIDING PEER SUPPORT VIA GROUPS AND FAMILY ACTIVITIES, ENCOURAGING SHARING OF IDEAS, RESOURCES AND SUPPORT WITHIN AND BETWEEN THESE GROUPS.3. PROMOTING AWARENESS ABOUT ASC AND SOCIAL ANXIETY AND CHALLENGING FEAR AND PREJUDICE.

Activities: ASCape is the only charity of its kind dedicated to improving the lives of autistic children and young adults (4-25) in West Dorset. We support children and their families through a range of family-based activities, offering a successful program of social groups and family activities free or at low-cost for all age ranges, from the very youngest children through to young people over the age of 18.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Other Finance, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, Economic/community Development/employment, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Dorset
- Somerset

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£82,348	£92,857	-	-
2024-12-31	£74,494	£61,945	-	-
2023-12-31	£78,100	£48,501	-	-
2022-12-31	£15,282	£19,221	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Janet Susan Tolley	Chair	2026-02-24
Andrew Penman		2026-05-15
Elizabeth Rutherford		2024-01-23
Ella-Louise Fitzgerald		2026-04-28
Eloise Bladon		2025-10-14
Mark Adam Samuel		2023-07-11
Mark Rixon		2024-10-08
Peter James Glock		2023-07-11
Sarah Elizabeth Charlotte Orritt		2023-07-11
Sharna-Lee Raine		2025-04-22

ASCAPE

England & Wales - Charity number 1197590

Accounts

Charity registration number: 1197590

ASCape

Annual Accounts and Trustees Report

For the year ended 31 December 2025

ASCape

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ASCape

Charity information

Trustees

Rebecca Watkins (Chair) - Resigned 31 October 2025
Mark Rixon (Treasurer)
Stacey Chilcott - Resigned 23 March 2025
Diane Evans - Resigned 11 September 2025
Max Glock (Young Trustee) - Resigned 25 July 2025
Peter Glock
Sarah Orritt
Elizabeth Rutherford
Mark Samuel
Sharna-Lee Raine - Appointed 22 April 2025
Eloise Bladon (Young Trustee) - Appointed 14 October 2025
Janet Susan Tolley - Appointed 24 February 2026

Charity's principal address

3 Nordons
Bridport
Dorset
DT6 4DU

Independent examiner

Hartley's Chartered Certified Accountants
The Grove
Rax Lane
Bridport
Dorset
DT6 3JL

ASCape

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 December 2025

The Trustees present their report together with the financial statements for the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Promoting social inclusion among children and young adults between the age of 0-25 years with Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC) and/or social anxiety, especially living in the county of Dorset, who are excluded from society or parts of society, as a result of their condition by:

1. Helping such children and young adults become better socialised and less isolated through the facilitation of peer support and supported socialisation.
2. Supporting carers and families, including siblings, of such young people by providing peer support via groups and family activities, encouraging sharing of ideas, resources and support within and between these groups.
3. Promoting awareness about ASC and social anxiety and challenging fear and prejudice.

Throughout 2025, ASCape delivered our core package of social activities for autistic children and young people, consisting of our bi-monthly Teens Youth Club and monthly club for the 18-25s, our monthly Family Activity Afternoons, 'Gardenscape', our weekly after-school gardening club, and 'Musicmakers', our monthly Saturday music club. We also offered regular activities for families in Weymouth and Portland, our summer music workshop 'You Do Music' and woodworking workshop. Highlights included trips to Abbotsbury Illuminated Gardens, Weymouth Sea Life Centre and the Numatic Factory in Chard, the home of 'Henry the hoover'.

For our growing community of over 1,000 parents and carers we continued to provide our bi-monthly support group in Bridport and a monthly wellbeing session on Sunday afternoons, as well as an expanded series of webinars on key topics, alongside our ongoing online peer support groups.

ASCape was present at a number of local events, including Chesil Youth Pride in June and the Sherborne Classic Car Show in July. A Tea and Cake fundraiser in West Bay in June organised by Bridport Rotary and staffed by ASCape volunteers raised £500.

The trustees met regularly through the year, providing the oversight and control necessary to ensure that the charity's new and existing activities were in line with the charitable purposes set out in the Constitution, thus ensuring that the Commission's public benefit guidance continued to be taken into account. As part of the strategic planning process, the Board improved risk analysis and management.

ASCape

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 December 2025

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

During 2025, ASCape continued to offer regular social activities and peer support for Autistic and socially anxious children and young adults in West Dorset, alongside information and support to their parents, carers and wider families. Responding to interest in the community, we launched a new regular cookery club for Teens and subsequently added a session for Teens aged 8-12. In total we delivered over 190 events and activities, and directly supported over 285 children and young people.

We also successfully piloted a community outreach project which reached 845 children and nearly 300 parents through engagement in schools and community spaces and events.

2025 saw the launch of ASCape's Youth Forum, a new youth engagement mechanism as a platform for young people to voice their vision and priorities, supported by the Youth Club's Lead and our Young Trustee. This has increased the representation of young Autistic and socially anxious people in ASCape's decision making and governance.

The Board and Co-Directors produced a new five-year Strategic Plan for the period 2026-2030. This set out a two-phase strategy to deepen our work in Bridport in 2026-2028, during which we will investigate the feasibility of widening our geographical scope and explore new funding streams. The full plan is available to read and download on our website.

At the end of the year ASCape secured a further five years of core funding from the National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund, providing considerable security for the organisation to continue to deliver support to our increasingly vulnerable community.

ASCape
Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 December 2025

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Total incoming resources in the year were £82,348 (2024:£74,494) and net deficit was £10,509 (2024:£12,549 surplus).

Total funds at 31 December 2025 were £41,712 (2024:£52,221) including restricted funds of £28,418 (2024:£39,811)

ASCape retains sufficient funds in reserve to be able to pay notice to staff as per their contracts and a nominal sum of £1,000 to cover administration and other costs should the organisation have to close.

These funds are held in a separate bank such that if we had any problems with our current account we could still pay our staff and creditors while this was resolved. An amount of unrestricted funds is also held separately for unforeseen running expenses and for ad-hoc activities and projects as approved by the Board.

The charity is funded predominately through grants, with the National Lottery Community Fund and Children in Need providing our core funding. Most of the charity's activities are covered by small annual grants from various local charities as well as supermarket funded schemes. This is supplemented with the unrestricted funding from the local community and parental contributions.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity was registered with the Charity Commission on 20 January 2022.

Our AGM was held on 22nd April 2025, attended by staff, volunteers and members of the ASCape community.

In 2025, four Trustees left the Board and two joined. Sharna-Lee Raine joined in April, bringing specific experience of managing Autism services in Bedfordshire and charity management expertise. Eloise Bladon stepped into the role of Young Trustee in October, replacing Max Glock who left to start post-graduate studies.

ASCape

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31 December 2025.

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 2011 Act and in carrying 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 (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.



.....
Hartleys Accountancy Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
The Grove
Rax Lane
Bridport
Dorset
DT6 3JL

10 May 2026

Date:.....

ASCape

A. Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Last year £
A1 Receipts				
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	32,883	32,883	24,132
BBC Children in Need	-	15,000	15,000	15,000
Dorset Council Youth Fund	-	8,352	8,352	4,547
Dorset Council Local Alliance Group - West Locality	-	4,950	4,950	1,700
Wessex Water Community Foundation	-	-	-	3,752
Dorset Community Foundation Neighbourhood Fund	-	-	-	3,460
Dorset Masonic Care	-	-	-	2,800
Co-op Local Community Fund	-	2,546	2,546	-
Dorset Council Community and Culture Project Fund	-	1,600	1,600	1,600
LHC Community Benefit Fund	-	-	-	4,990
The Three Guineas Trust	-	2,451	2,451	-
Other small restricted grants	-	2,000	2,000	3,670
Fundraising	160	-	160	3,764
Donations	9,236	-	9,236	2,856
Ticket receipts	3,170	-	3,170	2,223
			-	-
Total receipts	12,566	69,782	82,348	74,494
A3 Payments				
Management and leadership	2,634	30,354	32,988	29,489
Admin services	908	8,571	9,479	4,445
HR services	-	405	405	326
Training	262	335	597	309
Comms services	-	2,881	2,881	2,910
Consultancy	-	1,750	1,750	-
Therapists and facilitators, Counselling and advocacy	2,145	8,624	10,769	7,136
Activity leadership	528	9,806	10,334	2,436
Offsite activities	1,729	9,961	11,690	5,004
Venue and room hire	190	2,715	2,905	2,859
Travel expenses	-	281	281	-
Artscape, Arts and crafts supplies	106	260	366	166
Gardenscape, Garden supplies	-	154	154	149
Misc	51	-	51	-
Refreshments	246	1,047	1,293	1,310
Misc activities and sundries	531	867	1,398	1,239
Pension costs	16	592	608	974
Website and IT	47	703	750	397
Banking, Accountancy, Insurance, Subscriptions	305	3,031	3,336	1,983
Books and t-shirts	154	-	154	813
	9,852	82,337	92,189	61,945
A4 Asset and investment purchases				
IT equipment	-	668	668	-
	-	668	668	-
Total payments	9,852	83,005	92,857	61,945
Net receipts/(payments)	2,714	(13,223)	(10,509)	12,549
A5 Transfer between funds	(1,830)	1,830	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	12,410	39,811	52,221	39,672
Cash funds this year end	13,294	28,418	41,712	52,221

ASCape

B. Statement of Assets and Liabilities at the end of the period

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £
B1 Cash Funds		
BBC Children in Need		13,028
Co-op Local Community Fund		2,162
DCF Neighbourhood Fund Round 5		180
Dorset Council Local Alliance Group - West Locality		1,672
Dorset Masonic Care		474
Dorset Council Youth Fund Round 7		8,685
The National Lottery Community Fund		2,020
The Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust		197
The Barratt Redrow Foundation	975	
The Burton Bradstock Art Exhibition	560	
The Maurice Fry Charitable Trust	1,882	
Sherborne Classic Cars CIO	715	
Waitrose	101	
Unrestricted funds	9,061	
	13,294	28,418

B2 Other Monetary Assets

	-	-
	-	-

	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)
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B3 Investment Assets

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


Epson printer	National Lottery	218
ASUS laptop	National Lottery	400
Dell laptop	Unrestricted	345
Crucial portable memory	Unrestricted	17
Xiaomi smart phone	LHC Community B	69
2 x Samsung A05 smart phones	National Lottery	200
ASUS laptop	National Lottery	399

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

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

 <hr/> Signature	Mark Rixon <hr/> Print name	08 May 2026 <hr/> Date
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 <hr/> Signature	Eloise Bladon <hr/> Print name	10 May 2026 <hr/> Date
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ASCAPE

England & Wales - Charity number 1197590

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date **From 1 January 2024** Period end date **To 31 December 2024**

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	ASCape		
Other names charity is known by	n/a		
Registered charity number (if any)	1197590		
Charity's principal address	3, Nordons		
	Bridport		
	Dorset		
	Postcode	DT6 4DU	

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Rebecca WATKINS	Chair of Trustees		Board of Trustees
2	Diane EVANS			Board of Trustees
3	Peter GLOCK			Board of Trustees
4	Sarah ORRITT			Board of Trustees
5	Mark SAMUEL			Board of Trustees
6	Stacey CHILCOTT		Joined 23 January	Board of Trustees
7	Max GLOCK		Joined 23 January	Board of Trustees
8	Elizabeth RUTHERFORD		Joined 23 January	Board of Trustees
9	Naomi WALSTON		Joined 16 March, left 8 October	Board of Trustees
10	Mark RIXON	Treasurer	Joined 8 October	Board of Trustees

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Rebekah WEBB, Co-Director Clare CAMERON, Co-Director

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document <small>(e.g. trust deed, constitution)</small>	Constitution
How the charity is constituted <small>(e.g. trust deed, articles of association)</small>	Charitable Incorporated Organisation – Foundation Model
Trustee selection methods <small>(e.g. elected by the members)</small>	Elected by Board of Trustees

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Section C Objectives and activities

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

Promoting social inclusion among children and young adults between the age of 0-25 years with Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC) and/or social anxiety, especially living in the county of Dorset, who are excluded from society or parts of society, as a result of their condition by:

1. Helping such children and young adults become better socialised and less isolated through the facilitation of peer support and supported socialisation.
2. Supporting carers and families, including siblings, of such young people by providing peer support via groups and family activities, encouraging sharing of ideas, resources and support within and between these groups.
3. Promoting awareness about ASC and social anxiety and challenging fear and prejudice.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

ASCape continued to grow in breadth of reach and diversity of activities in 2024. We delivered 190 activities and events throughout the year - an increase of around 60% on last year - directly supporting nearly 300 children and young people.

We aim to offer a range of events and support groups that give breadth across our full age range as well as depth through a variety of activities. There is always at least one activity per month for each age range: 0-8 year olds (mini-ASCape), 4-14 year olds (main group), 11-17 year olds (Teens), 18-25 year olds (18+) and our parents and carers group. Additionally, in 2024 we significantly expanded the range of activities in the Weymouth/ Portland area thanks to funding from Children in Need. Other new activities in 2024 were Midi-MusicMakers, a series of events for Mini-ASCape and Q&A webinars for parents and carers on a variety of hot topics.

With the technical guidance and support of a local young film-maker, we launched a short film about our purpose and what we offer. This is available to view on our website: www.ASCapegroup.org.

In 2024, the Board of Trustees expanded to include five new members, including our new Treasurer, Mark Rixon, trustees from the parent/carer community and our first young trustee, Max Glock. The trustees met regularly through the year, providing the oversight and control necessary to ensure that the charity's new and existing activities were in line with the charitable purposes set out in the Constitution, thus ensuring that the Commission's public benefit guidance continued to be taken into account. We established new trustee committees on provision and partnership and HR. Our AGM took place on Tuesday 22nd April 2024.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

ASCape could not function without our dedicated team of around 30 regular volunteers. This is particularly the case with our Teens and 18+ Youth Clubs, where young people attend independently of their parents, but also the after-school gardening club. Volunteers also act as liaisons with activity facilitators, support with parent-carer groups, and organise fundraising and publicity events. Many of the 'hot topic' webinars for the parent-carer group are also delivered by volunteers.

Our volunteers are drawn to support our work for a variety of reasons. Most of them have lived experience of Autism or are neurodivergent themselves. Some are retirees who worked with children and young people and have skills and attributes that they wish to utilise. Many are members of the ASCape community, but some approach us from the wider community because they have heard about the work that we do and wish to help.

All our regular volunteers hold a DBS certificate, and are safeguarding-trained.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

ASCape's activities and support groups are a lifeline for members of our community, whether they happen in person or online. Levels of isolation, hopelessness and anxiety are high within the Autistic community, and showing up for new activities in person is a real challenge for many. Feedback from our community, through Parent-Carer surveys, after events and informally on our social media platforms demonstrate the improvement in wellbeing and mental health that engaging with our services brings about.

In 2024, we made some important new additions to the core team that have really strengthened ASCape as an organisation. We hired a new administrator in May 2024, and in December 2024 appointed our existing Teens Youth Club Lead to the new role of Community Outreach and Engagement officer, with both women proving invaluable to the functioning of the charity.

We are proud that within a few years of gaining charity status, ASCape is well-known and respected in West Dorset and beyond. We are often the first support group to whom parents are referred by services at diagnosis. Our parent-carer webinar series has enabled us to reach many more families this year. Our online presence via our ever-growing Facebook group is contributing to better awareness and understanding of autism within the community and our website, Facebook page and Instagram page increase awareness in the wider community.

The local community continues to astound us with their support, raising again over £4,000 in 2024 through coffee mornings, photography evenings, car boot sales and concerts. We also attracted a number of new funders, including the LHC Community Benefit Fund, Tesco Stronger Starts and the Stanley Smith (UK) Horticultural Trust, who alongside our regular sources of support have enabled us to provide a really exciting programme of activities.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

We aim to hold 10% of each year's annual income in reserve.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

ASCape is funded predominantly through grants, with the National Lottery Community Fund and Children in Need providing our core funding. Most of our activities are covered by small annual grants from various local charities as well as supermarket funding schemes. This is supplemented with unrestricted funding from the local community and parental contributions.

Section F

Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

Full name(s)

Rebecca Watkins

Mark Rixon

Position

Chair of Board of Trustees

Treasurer

Date

15-4-2025

15/04/2021



Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	01-Jan-24	To	31-Dec-24
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	24,132	-	24,132	32,923
Children in Need	-	15,000	-	15,000	15,000
Dorset Council Youth Fund	-	4,547	-	4,547	9,538
Dorset Council West LAG Inclusion Fund	-	1,700	-	1,700	2,995
Dorset Community Fund - Wessex Water	-	3,752	-	3,752	-
Dorset Community Foundation Neighbourhood Fund	-	3,460	-	3,460	2,200
Dorset Masonic Care	-	2,800	-	2,800	-
Culture & Community Benefit	-	1,600	-	1,600	-
LHC Community Benefit Fund	-	4,990	-	4,990	-
Other small restricted grants	-	3,670	-	3,670	-
Fundraising	3,764	-	-	3,764	4,133
Donations	2,856	-	-	2,856	8,535
Ticket receipts	2,223	-	-	2,223	2,210
Christmas Meal	-	-	-	-	309
Bank compensation	-	-	-	-	175
Other	-	-	-	-	81
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	8,843	65,651	-	74,494	78,099
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	8,843	65,651	-	74,494	78,099
A3 Payments					
Management and leadership	-	29,489	-	29,489	19,299
Admin services	-	4,445	-	4,445	2,025
HR services	-	326	-	326	1,705
Training	-	309	-	309	1,285
Comms services	178	2,732	-	2,910	1,260
Therapists and facilitators, Counselling and advocacy	1,005	6,131	-	7,136	40
Activity leadership	-	2,436	-	2,436	3,362
Offsite activities	-	5,004	-	5,004	3,186
Venue and room hire	12	2,847	-	2,859	2,892
Woodscape	-	-	-	-	2,520
Artscape, Arts and crafts supplies	-	166	-	166	2,078
Gardenscape, Garden supplies	-	149	-	149	1,135
Music	-	-	-	-	777
Refreshments	370	940	-	1,310	630
Misc activities and sundries	169	1,070	-	1,239	337
Drama	-	-	-	-	270
Hoodies	-	-	-	-	1,014
Pension costs	-	974	-	974	-
Website and IT	-	397	-	397	906
Film	-	-	-	-	755
Banking, Accountancy, Insurance, Subscriptions	-	1,983	-	1,983	639
Books and t-shirts	813	-	-	813	530
Christmas meal	-	-	-	-	522
Other	-	-	-	-	354
Sub total	2,547	59,398	-	61,945	47,521
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
IT equipment	-	-	-	-	980
Sub total	-	-	-	-	980
Total payments	2,547	59,398	-	61,945	48,501
Net of receipts/(payments)	6,296	6,253	-	12,549	29,598
A5 Transfers between funds	-	167	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	6,281	33,391	-	39,672	10,074
Cash funds this year end	12,410	39,811	-	52,221	39,674

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

Category	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £	
B1 Cash funds	Dorset Council Youth Fund Round 4	-	181	-	
	Dorset Council Youth Fund Round 5	-	570	-	
	Dorset Council Youth Fund Round 6	-	4,393	-	
	DCF Neighbourhood Fund Round 4		94		
	DCF Neighbourhood Fund Round 5		311		
	The National Lottery Fund Year 1		4,729		
	The National Lottery Fund Year 2		1,870		
	Culture & Community Fund		1,600		
	LHC Community Benefit Fund		4,948		
	Wessex Water Community Fund		3,752		
	Children in Need	-	14,019	-	
	Dorset Masonic Care	-	1,881	-	
	Tesco Stronger Starts	-	900	-	
	Other small grants	-	563	-	
	Unrestricted funds	12,410			
	Total cash funds		12,410	39,811	-

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

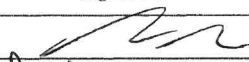
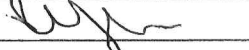
Category	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-

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

Category	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Epson printer	National Lottery	218	-
	ASUS laptop	National Lottery	400	-
	Dell laptop	Unrestricted	345	-
	Crucial portable memory	Unrestricted	17	-
			-	-

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

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	MARK DIXON	22/04/25
	REBECCA WATKINS	22/4/25



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

ASCAPE

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 December 2024

**Charity no
(if any)**

1197590

Set out on pages

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 12 / 2024.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

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

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

Signed:

Simon Hartley

Date:

17 / 04 / 2025

Name:

Simon Hartley

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

ACCA.

Address:

Hartley's

The Grove, Rax Lane, Bridport, Dorset, DT6 3JL

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

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

ASCAPE

England & Wales - Charity number 1197590

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	1	January	2023		31	December	2023

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	ASCape		
Other names charity is known by	n/a		
Registered charity number (if any)	1197590		
Charity's principal address	3, Nordons		
	Bridport		
	Dorset		
	Postcode	DT6 4DU	

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Karen WRIGHT		Until April 2023	Board of Trustees
2	Emma-Jane HARRIS		Until April 2023	Board of Trustees
3	Kelly SHEPPARD		Until November 2023	Board of Trustees
4	Clare CAMERON		Until July 2023	Board of Trustees
5	Rebekah WEBB		Until July 2023	Board of Trustees
6	Sandra HUDSON-GREEN		Until July 2023	Board of Trustees
7	Stella WATERHOUSE		Until September 2023	Board of Trustees
8	Rebecca WATKINS	Chair of Trustees		Board of Trustees
9	Diane EVANS		From July 2023	Board of Trustees
10	Peter GLOCK		From July 2023	Board of Trustees
11	Sarah ORRITT		From July 2023	Board of Trustees
12	Mark SAMUEL		From July 2023	Board of Trustees

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Treasurer	Stephen HUNT	20 Osbourne Road, Bridport DT6 3AN

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

n/a

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation – Foundation Model
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Elected by Board of Trustees

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

--

Section C Objectives and activities

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

Promoting wellbeing and social inclusion among children and young adults between the age of 4-25 years with Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC) and/or social anxiety especially living in the county of Dorset who are socially excluded from society or parts of society as a result of their condition by:

- 1) helping such children and young adults become better socialised and less isolated through the facilitation of peer support and supported socialisation.
- 2) supporting carers and families, including siblings, of such young people by providing peer support via groups and family activities, encouraging sharing of ideas, resources and support within and between these groups.
- 3) promoting awareness about ASC and Social Anxiety and challenging fear and prejudice.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

ASCape grew significantly as a charity in 2023. Thanks to the awarding of core funding from the National Lottery and Children in Need, we hired our first paid staff and youth club leads. This enabled us to deliver over 114 activities and events throughout the year, doubling the number of children and young people we reach to over 200.

In addition to continuing our popular Tuesday youth club night and weekly after-school gardening club, we expanded our events for our youngest ASCapers aged 4-7 and added social outings for the over 18s. Family activity afternoons became a monthly fixture, as did our popular Parent and Carer Wellbeing afternoons.

Our second annual picnic took place in August and we took over the Sealife Centre in Weymouth for a very memorable evening of 'Sharks after Dark' in October.

In 2023 we also launched our new website www.ascapigroup.org, with a whole set of resources for parents and carers, as well as an events page and information about all the activities we offer. We received an average of 600 visitors to our website each month.

The Board of Trustees met regularly during 2023, providing the oversight and control necessary to ensure that the charity's new and existing activities were in line with the charitable purposes set out in the Constitution, thus ensuring that the Commission's public benefit guidance continued to be taken into account.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

We have around 40 volunteers. They contribute to every aspect of ASCape's existence, from supporting activities, youth clubs, and days out for our young people, to running wellbeing sessions and workshops, to providing additional capacity to the small staff team by helping with communications, social media and fundraising, among other things.

Many of our volunteers are people who have experience of living with neurodiversity themselves and/or caring for neurodivergent children, so they come to ASCape with empathy and understanding. We hope their involvement with us also provides them with support and care from the ASCape community.

All our volunteers hold a DBS certificate, and are safeguarding-trained, with experience of autism and mental health challenges.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Every time a child or young person attends one of our clubs or activities we consider it an achievement as our children are severely isolated and restricted in what they can engage in. We know from parent surveys and feedback from our young people themselves that our activities help them to socialise with their peers, give them more confidence, and have improved their mental health.

ASCape is becoming well-known in the local area and we are increasingly the first organisation that parents are referred to by services at diagnosis. The expansion of our parent and carer wellbeing sessions has enabled us to reach many more families this year. Our online presence via our facebook page and website is contributing to better awareness and understanding of autism in the community.

In 2023, we contributed towards meeting our key strategic goals by securing long-term funding and diversifying our funding sources. Community fundraising contributed over £4,000, while £141,590 was awarded in grants over next three years.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

10% of funds are held in reserve.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Section F

Other optional information

1	Chair of Trustees	From April 2023	Board of Trustees
2	Rebecca Watkins	From November 2023	Board of Trustees
3	Diane Evans	From July 2023	Board of Trustees
4	Rebecca Webb	From July 2023	Board of Trustees
5	Sarah Hudson-Green	From July 2023	Board of Trustees
6	Sally Waterhouse	From September 2023	Board of Trustees
7	Rebecca Watkins		Board of Trustees


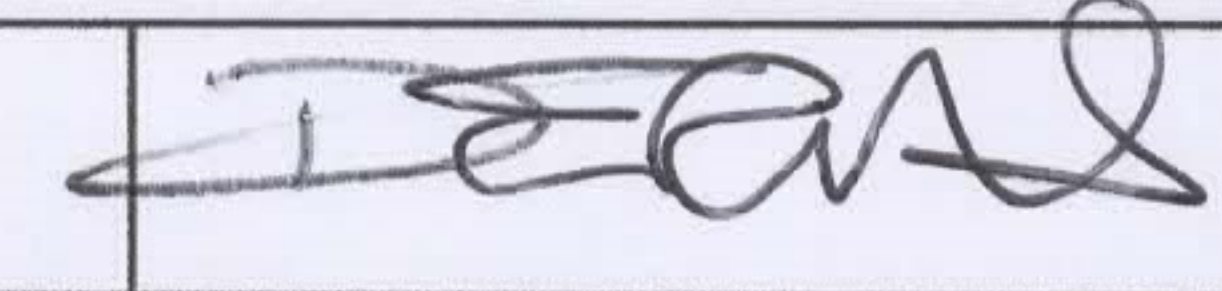
Section G

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

Full name(s)

Rebecca Watkins

Diane Evans

Position

Chair of Board of Trustees

Trustee

Date

2/5/2024

02/05/2024

ASCape Annual Receipts and Payments Accounts
1 January - 31 December 2023

	£	£	£
Opening cash balance at bank - 1 January 2023			10,073.62
Income			
<i>Restricted Funds</i>			
The National Lottery	32,923.00		
Children in Need	15,000.00		
Dorset Council Youth Fund	9,538.00		
Dorset Council West LAG Inclusion Fund	2,994.75		
Dorset Community Foundation Neighbourhood Fund	2,200.00		
Magdalen Hospital Trust	2,000.00		
Bridport Community Shed	1,600.00		
Bridport Town Council	500.00		
Johnnie Boden	500.00		
B Sharp	283.50		
Morrisons	100.00		
Higos Community Fund	100.00		
<i>Restricted funds sub-total</i>	<u>67,739.25</u>		
<i>Unrestricted funds</i>			
Fundraising	4,132.68		
Donations	2,407.32		
Ticket receipts	2,210.04		
Ring-fenced income (Hoodies)	1,045.00		
Ring-fenced income (Christmas meal)	309.50		
Bank compensation	175.00		
Miscellaneous	81.00		
<i>Unrestricted funds sub-total</i>	<u>10,360.54</u>		
Total Income		<u>78,099.79</u>	
Expenditure			
<i>Operating costs</i>			
Management and organisational planning	19,299.00	39.8%	
Admin services	2,025.00	4.2%	
HR services	1,705.00	3.5%	
Training	1,285.00	2.6%	
Comms services	1,260.00	2.6%	
Counselling/Advocacy	40.00	0.1%	
<i>Operating costs sub-total</i>	<u>25,614.00</u>	<u>52.8%</u>	
<i>Activity costs</i>			
Group leadership	3,362.00	6.9%	
Offsite activities	3,185.70	6.6%	
Room hire	2,891.25	6.0%	
Woodscape	2,520.00	5.2%	
Artscape	2,078.00	4.3%	
Gardenscape	1,135.00	2.3%	
Music	777.50	1.6%	
Refreshments	630.20	1.3%	
Misc. activities and sundries	336.79	0.7%	
Drama	270.00	0.6%	
<i>Activity costs sub-total</i>	<u>17,186.44</u>	<u>35.4%</u>	
<i>Other costs</i>			
Clothing (Hoodies)	1,014.14	2.1%	
Equipment	979.93	2.0%	
Website	906.40	1.9%	
Film	755.00	1.6%	
Bank, accountancy, insurance and subscription charges	638.83	1.3%	
Book	530.00	1.1%	
Christmas meal	522.05	1.1%	
Miscellaneous	354.52	0.7%	
<i>Other costs sub-total</i>	<u>5,700.87</u>	<u>11.8%</u>	
Total Expenditure			<u>48,501.31</u>
Income against Expenditure (surplus/deficit)			<u>29,598.48</u>
Closing cash balance at bank - 31 December 2023			39,672.10

Notes

Accounts are presented on a Receipts and Payments basis, ie. showing the movement of cash and cash equivalents into and out of the charity during the financial year

Expenditure percentage figures are shown as a percentage against total expenditure

ASCAPE

England & Wales - Charity number 1197590

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	1	January	2022		31	December	2022

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name ASCape

Other names charity is known by n/a

Registered charity number (if any) 1197590

Charity's principal address 18 Osbourne Road

Bridport

Dorset

Postcode

DT6 3AN

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Karen WRIGHT	Chair of Trustees		Board of Trustees
2	Leeann BOON	Treasurer	Until 11 January	Board of Trustees
3	Kelly SHEPPARD			Board of Trustees
4	Clare CAMERON			Board of Trustees
5	Jeannette CHANNING-PEARCE		Until 11 January	Board of Trustees
6	Lisa PINCH			Board of Trustees
7	Stella WATERHOUSE			Board of Trustees
8	Emma-Jane HARRIS		16 February onwards	Board of Trustees
9	Sandra HUDSON-GREEN		16 February onwards	Board of Trustees
10	Rebecca WATKINS		16 February onwards	Board of Trustees
11	Rebekah WEBB		16 February onwards	Board of Trustees
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Treasurer	Stephen HUNT	20 Osbourne Road, Bridport DT6 3AN

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

n/a

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation – Foundation Model
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Elected by Board of Trustees

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

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

Promoting social inclusion among children and young adults between the age of 0-19 years with Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC) and/or social anxiety especially living in the county of Dorset including in the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council areas who are socially excluded from society or parts of society as a result of their condition by:

- 1) helping such children and young adults become better socialised and less isolated through the facilitation of peer support and supported socialisation.
- 2) supporting carers and families, including siblings, of such young people by providing peer support via groups and family activities, encouraging sharing of ideas, resources and support within and between these groups.
- 3) promoting awareness about ASC and Social Anxiety and challenge fear and prejudice.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Originally established in 2018, ASCape is a growing community of over 400 people, directly supporting over 100 children and their families through a range of family-based activities.

During 2022 we worked to increase the number and range of activities provided for young people, their families and carers, including monthly youth clubs for pre-teens and teens, an over-18s social group, an art club and a seasonal gardening club.

We also ran family activity afternoons from pond dipping and seed planting, animal feeding and handling, swimming, ten-pin bowling, bouldering, rope-making, fossiling and beach games plus the hugely popular Family Picnic. In the autumn, ASCape activities included rafting, canoeing and treasure hunting.

The Board of Trustees met regularly during 2022, providing the oversight and control necessary to ensure that the charity's new and existing activities were in line with the charitable purposes set out in the Constitution, thus ensuring that the Commission's public benefit guidance continued to be taken into account.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

ASCape's activities during 2022 have improved socialisation of children and young adults and reducing isolation.

Most people hear about ASCape via word of mouth from parent to parent, and increasingly we are receiving referrals from local paediatricians and speech therapists. This has been without promotional materials such as flyers or posters. People speak highly of ASCape and we enjoy a good reputation in the Bridport area.

Over the past 12 months, 100 children and young people have attended one or more of our activities, and 82 parents have participated. We now have over 400 Facebook members.

- we have helped 100 children and young people to become better socialised and less isolated;
- we have supported 40 families with peer support;
- we have increased our Facebook membership from 239 to 423 (increased by 77%).

The increase in family activity sessions and the introduction of specific Parent and Carer well-being sessions provides demonstrable peer support which not only encourages sharing of ideas, resources and support, but also promotes awareness about ASC and Social Anxiety, and challenges fear and prejudice.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The charity has yet to develop a formal policy on reserves, although there is an aspiration to have approximately 10% of funds held in reserve at any given time.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

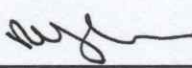

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Section F

Other optional information

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	REBECCA WATKINS	CLARE CAMERON
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	TRUSTEE CHAIR	TRUSTEE & CO-LEAD
Date	11 July 2023	11th July 2023

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 1-Jan-22	To	Period end date 31-Dec-22
---------------------	-------------------------------	----	------------------------------

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
The National Lottery Awards For All	-	-	-	-	9,905
Co-op Local Community Fund	-	-	-	-	2,984
Dorset Community Foundation Neighbourhood Fund 2022	-	5,000	-	5,000	-
Dorset Community Fund - Wessex Water	-	2,952	-	2,952	-
Dorset Council Youth Fund Round 3	-	2,450	-	2,450	-
Dorset Community Fund - Nature Heals Seed Fund	-	1,000	-	1,000	-
Bridport Town Council	-	500	-	500	-
Ticket Receipts	1,216	-	-	1,216	-
Donations	815	-	-	815	164
Fundraising	439	-	-	439	-
Miscellaneous	910	-	-	910	10
Sub total(Gross income for AR)	3,380	11,902	-	15,282	13,063
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	3,380	11,902	-	15,282	13,063
A3 Payments					
Management and organisational administration	3,926	5,321	-	9,247	2,659
Group leadership	120	420	-	540	-
Counselling	-	105	-	105	400
Training	1,056	-	-	1,056	763
Activities - offsite	-	2,909	-	2,909	7,165
ArtScape	-	531	-	531	150
Music	300	465	-	765	-
GardenScape	4	1,034	-	1,039	-
Misc Activities and sundries	20	113	-	132	420
Room hire	203	578	-	780	-
Clothing & Equipment	517	-	-	517	319
Refreshments	191	255	-	446	129
Website	97	13	-	110	110
Stationery	369	-	-	369	132
Book	100	-	-	100	605
Bank charges & insurance	61	330	-	391	237
Other	-	185	-	185	99
Sub total	6,964	12,257	-	19,221	13,186
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	6,964	12,257	-	19,221	13,186
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 3,584	- 355	-	- 3,939	- 124
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	7,549	6,464	-	14,013	14,136
Cash funds this year end	3,965	6,109	-	10,074	14,013

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds				
	The National Lottery Awards For All	546	-	-
	DCF Neighbourhood Fund 2022	-	979	-
	Dorset Council Youth Fund Round 3	-	677	-
	DCF - Nature Heals Seed Fund	-	1,000	-
	Bridport Town Council	-	500	-
	DCF- Wessex Water	-	2,952	-
	Reserve	3,419	-	-
	Total cash funds	3,965	6,109	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £

B2 Other monetary assets

	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

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

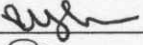
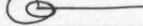
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

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

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
Uncashed cheques	National Lottery Awards for All	372	
Uncashed cheques	DCF Neighbourhood Fund 2022	135	
Uncashed cheques	Reserve	52	
		-	
		-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	REBECCA WATKINS	11/07/23
	CLARE CAMERON	11/07/23