	<b>Trustees' Annual Report for the period</b>			
	Period start date	Period end date		
<b>From</b>	<b>1 January 2024</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>31 December 2024</b>	

## Section A Reference and administration details

<b>Charity name</b>	ASCape		
<b>Other names charity is known by</b>	n/a		
<b>Registered charity number (if any)</b>	1197590		
<b>Charity's principal address</b>	3, Nordons		
	Bridport		
	Dorset		
	<b>Postcode</b>	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
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## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (6) Trust deed (constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (4) Not a company or corporation	Charitable Incorporated Organisation – Foundation Model
Trustee selection methods (5) Elected by the trustees	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](http://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.

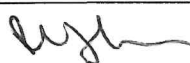
## Section F Other optional information

## 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

### 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 £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
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
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>8,843</b>	<b>65,651</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>74,494</b>	<b>78,099</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>8,843</b>	<b>65,651</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>74,494</b>	<b>78,099</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
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	96
Film	-	-	-	-	755
Banking, Accountancy, Insurance, Subscriptions	-	1,983	-	1,983	639
Books and t-shirts	813	-	-	813	530
Christmas meal	-	-	-	-	522
Other	-	-	-	-	354
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>2,547</b>	<b>59,398</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>61,945</b>	<b>47,521</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
IT equipment	-	-	-	-	980
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>980</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>2,547</b>	<b>59,398</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>61,945</b>	<b>48,501</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>6,296</b>	<b>6,253</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12,549</b>	<b>29,598</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>6,281</b>	<b>33,391</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>39,672</b>	<b>10,074</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>12,410</b>	<b>39,811</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>52,221</b>	<b>39,672</b>

## 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 £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	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		-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>12,410</b>	<b>39,811</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			

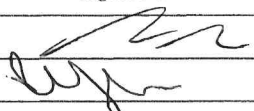
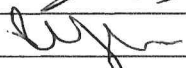
	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	-	-	-
	-	-	-

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>		-	-
		-	-

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

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

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").

Independent  
examiner's statement

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.

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:

*[Signature]*

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.