



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From		Period start date			To		Period end date		
		01	April	2023			31	March	2024

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Stroud Earth Community
Other names charity is known by	SEC, Trinity Rooms Community Hub
Registered charity number (if any)	1199586
Charity's principal address	Trinity Rooms
	Field Road
	Stroud, Gloucestershire
Postcode	GL5 2HZ

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	Sarah Frazer	Chair		
2	Frances Mosley	Secretary		
3	Victoria Redstone	Treasurer		
4	Katharina Child			
5	Robin Ellis-Cockcroft			
6	James Millar			
7	George Vigileos			
8	Simon Jacobson		Appointed 13 November 2023	

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
Independent Examiner	Paul Cowham	Withington Works, 30 Burton Road Manchester, M20 3EB

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

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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 (CIO)
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Elected by members

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

The provision and maintenance of a community centre in Stroud, Gloucestershire with the object of improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants of the town. Stroud Earth Community operates the Trinity Rooms, Stroud, as a community space which supports social, spiritual, environmental, health, and educational activities for benefit of the people of Stroud and the surrounding district.

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)

The trustees review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year. This report looks at what the charity has achieved and the outcomes of its work in the reporting period. The review also helps the trustees ensure the charity's aims, objectives and activities remained focused on its stated purposes.

The trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

Stroud Earth Community operates the Trinity Rooms, Stroud, a former church hall, as a community centre supporting social, spiritual, environmental, health, and educational activities. The Trinity Rooms Community Hub is an accessible, safe and welcoming space where people can come together to eat, work, learn, and enjoy themselves.

Stroud Earth Community directly runs a weekly community café and Food Hub at the Trinity Rooms, and provides space and support to other groups including the local Food Bank and a community craft organisation. The Trinity Rooms Community Hub is also available to other local groups and individuals for hire at reasonable or no cost for events, meetings, activities and recreational purposes.

In opening up the Trinity Rooms as a community hub we provide a place for activities which benefit the environment, and the health and well-being of local people, that improve social connection, tackle poverty and promote sustainable development.

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**Lease**

Stroud Earth Community signed a 5-year lease of the Trinity Rooms in Stroud in February 2023 which includes an option to buy. The landlords are the Trustees of Trinity Rooms, Stroud. Prior to the lease we were operating the Trinity Rooms under a licence arrangement.

Staff/contractors

We have one part-time member of staff, whose employment we have increased from 2 days to 3 days a week. They manage the bookings and day-to-day maintenance of the Trinity Rooms. We also have a part-time cleaner and we pay for a chef once a week to manage the cafes. Apart from these people, who are all self employed contractors, we run entirely on volunteers.

Volunteers

The Core group, which includes trustees, has a hands-on role managing the Trinity Rooms, consisting of 8 people who volunteer their time, and also recruit, onboard and manage other volunteers.

As well as the trustees and core group we have 64 other volunteers, some of whom help out every week with the café, pantry, market collection, upkeep and maintenance of the hall, and some of whom offer more occasional help.

Friday Café

The café started in September 2022 and has continued weekly since then. It mostly uses surplus food from local suppliers, and is staffed by volunteers and the paid chef. Payment for food and drink is on a pay-as-you-can basis. The café has grown and by the end of the financial year was very well attended with approximately 55-90 meals consumed per week, plus drinks and snacks.

The café is also a designated Warm Space in winter, supported by the town and district councils. Regular health check sessions run by NHS staff are held alongside the café and offer a service to people in need who may not access services directly through GP services. Sign-posting information is available for people who may have debt problems, addictions, mental health needs and financial hardship.

Pantry (food hub)

Food and hygiene products (some donated and some bought in) are available to local people on a pay-as-you-can basis every Monday morning and Saturday afternoon. The food hub is part of a network of hubs in Stroud which support each other and coordinate food surpluses, so that one hub's surplus can be offered to another hub.

The Stroud District Food Bank also has a base at the Trinity Rooms, and runs sessions three times a week, giving food to those most in need.

The Rethink Mental Illness Service, which supports people with their mental health, runs its own weekly café at the Trinity Rooms.

Farmers' Market collections

At the end of Stroud Farmers' Market every Saturday, our volunteers collect surplus food from stall holders, then sort it and distribute it to various voluntary groups including the Friday Café itself, but also Rethink and the Chapel Street Café, another local community hub.

The average weight of food collected varies through the year, from about 45 to 120 kg per week.

Craft sessions

Atelier, a local repair and crafting organisation, has been incorporated into the Trinity Rooms. They run weekly open textile sessions, and hold workshops and a monthly repair café.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The policy is to hold an unrestricted general reserve of at least £15,000 in our bank account, as this represents the figure needed to cover running costs for the Trinity Rooms Community Hub for six months.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

N/A

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.

During our first full financial year the principal sources of income were once again room hire, Friday café income, grants and donations. The trustees are very pleased to report a surplus of £26,481 for the year and are confident that we are generating enough income to keep running the Trinity Rooms as a viable concern.

As of 31 March 2024 SEC had total funds of £46,853 of which £13,307 were restricted funds which can only be spent on items specified by the donor. Most of our restricted funds were for food or equipment for the community pantry and the café, plus £3,518 for the purchase of the building.

We also held £33,546 in unrestricted funds of which £2,051 were designated for our Christmas Day event. £2,533 is designated for Network of Stroud Hubs which Stroud Earth Community is a member and supporter of. The general unrestricted fund stood at £28,761 which forms our reserve. We aim to have a reserve of at least £15,000 as this represents our running costs for six months. We also aim to have a further £8,000 in reserve whenever possible to cover replacement costs for the elderly boiler at the Trinity Rooms.

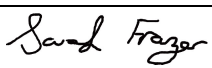
Section F

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)	Sarah Frazer	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
Date	27.12.2024	

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Stroud Earth Community**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Stroud Earth Community (the Trust) for the period ended 31 March 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 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

Paul Cowham

Paul Cowham FCA DChA
Withington Works
Withington Baths
30 Burton Road
Manchester, M20 3EB

Date 8/1/25



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
STROUD EARTH COMMUNITY

No (if any)
1199586

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period
from

Period start date
01-Apr-23

To

Period end date
31-Mar-24

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	(Jul 22 - Mar 23)
A1 Receipts					
Donations	13,011	3,518	-	16,529	14,706
Grants	325	13,520	-	13,845	9,717
Rental receipts	24,534	-	-	24,534	7,794
Community café receipts	16,188	-	-	16,188	5,332
Fund raising	7,235	-	-	7,235	3,689
Other income	3,264	-	-	3,264	-
Bank interest	462	-	-	462	6
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	65,019	17,038	-	82,057	41,244
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	65,019	17,038	-	82,057	41,244
A3 Payments					
Premises and kitchen costs	15,802	2,841	-	18,643	7,665
Refurbishment and renovation	9,632	5,500	-	15,132	-
Contractor fees	13,779	3,582	-	17,361	9,520
Employment costs	1,352	-	-	1,352	-
Legal and professional fees	1,850	-	-	1,850	2,468
Administration	1,093	-	-	1,093	926
Fund raising costs	-	-	-	-	260
Bank charges	145	-	-	145	33
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	43,653	11,923	-	55,576	20,872
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	43,653	11,923	-	55,576	20,872
Net of receipts/(payments)	21,366	5,115	-	26,481	20,372
A5 Transfers between funds	29	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	12,151	8,221	-	20,372	-
Cash funds this year end	33,546	13,307	-	46,853	20,372

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	Cash at bank	33,546	13,307	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	33,546	13,307	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	Gift aid owed to the charity	3,638	475	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
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)
	March 24 employment costs paid April	unrestricted	1,349	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Sarah Frazer		