

SPARKS PROJECT CIO

England & Wales · Charity number 1200459

Details

Other names	SPARKS PROJECT CIC
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2022-09-22
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Sparks Project CIO 30 Wreyfield Drive Scarborough YO12 6NN
Phone	07701356900
Email	info@sparksproject.co.uk
Website	www.sparksproject.co.uk

Activities

Objects: THE RELIEF OF CHARITABLE NEED ARISING BY REASON OF AGE, POOR MENTAL OR PHYSICAL HEALTH, DISABILITY OR OTHER SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE IN THE COMMUNITIES OF NORTH YORKSHIRE, BY PROVIDING PRACTICAL HANDS-ON SUPPORT AS WELL AS INFORMATION, COUNSELLING, ADVICE, GUIDANCE AND COACHING.

Activities: Supporting residents in disadvantaged areas to improve life chances & wellbeing
Crisis support - Food, fuel, data, IAG, mental health & suicide prevention
Connections - group sessions, wellbeing, crafting, Baby play/weigh, walking & beach therapy.
Coaching - sessions with an inhouse Life Coach.
Counselling - sessions with an inhouse Counsellor.
Careers - Skills, training & employment support

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- North Yorkshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-09-30	£226,717	£187,802	-	-
2023-10-31	£199,799	£158,159	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Michael John Whiteley	Chair	2023-06-21
Dr David Nwinee		2025-08-12
Jane Susan Baxter		2022-03-09
Vivienne Zoe Day		2026-02-17

SPARKS PROJECT CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1200459

Accounts

Sparks

supporting people and communities

Registered Charity Number: 1200459

Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements
for the period 1st October 2023 to 30th September 2024
for Sparks Project CIO

Metcalf's Accountancy Services

Unit 11, Yorkshire Coast Business Centre, Auborough Street,
Scarborough, North Yorkshire, YO11 1HT

**Contents of Financial Statements for the period
1st October 2023 to 30th September 2024**

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Sparks

supporting people and communities

TRUSTEES REPORT
2023-2024

The Sparks Project CIO

Legal and Administrative Information

Legal Status

We became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 22nd September 2002 and started trading as a CIO on 1st October 2022.

We were a Community Interest Company and this was converted to a CIO on 1st October 2022. Our only voting members are our Trustees.

Trustees

Jane Susan Baxter
Christina Boden
Dr. Asif Firfirey
Michael Whiteley

Charity number: 1200459

Principal Address

Sparks Project CIO
30 Wreyfield Drive
Scarborough
YO12 6NN

Independent Examiner

Metcalf's Accounting Services,
Unit 11,
Yorkshire Coast Enterprise Centre,
Auborough Street,
Scarborough,
YO11 1HT

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 30th September 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements. They comply with our charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and FRS 102 (Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities).

This Trustees Report was approved by the Trustees on 13th June 2025 and signed on its behalf by our chair of Trustees Michael Whiteley



OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

As a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), we have our objectives specifically defined in our written constitution. Our objectives are the relief of charitable need arising by reason of age, poor mental or physical health, disability or other social and economic disadvantage in the communities of North Yorkshire, by providing practical hands-on support as well as information, advice, guidance, coaching and counselling.

SPARKS was created in 2018 from community led research with residents identifying a need for an independent organisation based on their estate. 6 years on SPARKS is embedded within the communities we serve and works with residents to develop and deliver services that respond to the needs of people in crisis in Barrowcliff and Eastfield Estates. Both these communities we support are in the 10% most deprived in the country. These people are hard to reach and lack trust in government agencies and statutory bodies. We have 5 core services including:



CRISIS SUPPORT

Food Parcels
Fuel Vouchers
Use of Phones, Laptops and Internet Access
Benefits Support
Mental Health & Wellbeing
Suicide Prevention
Information, Advice & Guidance



CONNECTIONS

Improving connections with others
Baby & Parent
Crafting & Wellbeing
Beach Therapy
Walking & Sporting activities
LGBTQIA craft group



COACHING

One-to-One appointments with a Life Coach
Health and Wellbeing
Budgeting and Finances
Goal Setting and Aspirations



COUNSELLING

One-to-One appointments
In-House Trainee Counsellors
BACP and UKCP Registered



CAREERS

Careers advice
Courses, training and volunteering
CVs and job searching

Our qualified life coaches have a practical hands-on approach when mentoring and coaching clients in their own homes or in our premises.

Throughout the period the trustees have paid due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.



**CRISIS
SUPPORT**

**980
FOOD
PARCELS**

----- GIVEN OUT -----

**1225
PEOPLE**

----- PRESENTING -----

IN CRISIS

----- AT THE DOOR -----



**COACHING
& CAREERS**

**3520
APPOINTMENTS**

----- ATTENDED -----



CONNECTIONS

**NINE
GROUPS**

PROVIDED WITH

**4822
INTERVENTIONS**



COUNSELLING

SIX

COUNSELLORS

WITH

476

**HOURS OF
COUNSELLING
PROVIDED**

SUMMARY

OCTOBER 2023 - SEPTEMBER 2024

FIVE contract successes, fundraising and opening a second office!!!

Our grant application to the Integrated Care Board (ICB) Health Inequalities fund in partnership with SCORE Primary Care Network (PCN) who are a collective of four GP Surgeries in Scarborough, Including Haxby, Brook Square, Castle and Eastfield Medical Centre was successful. This allowed us to expand our Baby groups to 3 in total, one in Barrowcliff, one in Eastfield and one in Scarborough town.

We were also successful with a second bid to the ICB Health Inequalities fund in partnership with the PCN that covers five GP surgeries, Hackness Road, Danes Dyke, Southcliff, Hunmanby and Filey. This contract is to work with patients who aim to return to work, giving them the foundations and support to move towards the labour market.

Great news on our new NY Sport contract for "Sparks Get Moving pilot programme" This is a two-layer project supporting people to get out and get moving and to recruit a bank of volunteers to support us to make this happen.

We are a partner organisation delivering the Rise 2 Thrive programme via Better Connect, with funding from UK Shared Prosperity and Levelling Up.

This programme supports inactive clients move towards the labour market, via interventions, one to one and group support. Unusually it also supports employed people who are in work but struggling with mental health issues and/or issues regarding neurodiversity.

Woodsmith Foundation Expression of Interest has helped us develop and fund a pilot for our new Life MAPS programme. Maps stands for **Mindset, Activity, Purpose and Success** this is a 26-week course for people struggling with mental health issues. There is a 12-week workshop style course with our tutor and a wraparound one-to-one service with a Life Coach for 26 weeks.

We secured new premises at Manham Hill in Eastfield which allows us to have our own accessible office where we have a counselling room, kitchen for one to ones and a large creative space for our group sessions. Lots of hard work to reconfigure, decorate and refurbish ready to open November 2024.

All of this is in addition to the work we continue to do on a daily basis including our emergency food bank, fuel and data poverty support and our group sessions including, beach chalet, walking, crafting and wellbeing groups

We continued to deliver our Connection Sessions in both Barrowcliff and Eastfield to reduce social isolation, improve mental and physical health and as part of our suicide prevention work.

MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS

CRISIS SUPPORT | LIFE COACHING |
COUNSELLING | CAREERS
9am - 4pm

TUESDAYS

CRAFTING
52 Manham Hill
10am-12noon

BABY GROUP
Wreyfield Drive Church
1pm - 3pm

WEDNESDAYS

CRAFTING
Wreyfield Drive
Church
10am-12noon

GET MOVING
Scarborough
Rugby Club
1pm - 3pm

BABY GROUP
SCF-Elim Church,
Castle Road
1pm - 3pm

THURSDAYS

BABY GROUP
Eastfield Scout Hut
1pm - 3pm

FRIDAYS

WALKING/BEACH THERAPY
Meet at Gallows Close
10am - 12noon

CREATIVE LGBTQIA+
52 Manham Hill
1pm - 3pm





BETTER CONNECT RISE 2 THRIVE

We offer intense one to one support with our qualified Life Coach to a cohort of clients furthest from the labour market but hoping to move towards employment. Offering practical and emotional support weekly to overcome barriers and obstacles that clients are facing regarding mental, physical and emotional health and wellbeing.

We work with people who are very socially isolated, who require support, encouragement and reassurance to build new healthy habits and ways of being. This takes courage and trust from the client to try new things, adjust their mindset and build resilience. Many have gained confidence to join our group sessions of walking, crafting and sporting activities.

We are working closely with other partner organisations in Scarborough, including Yorkshire in Business and Carers Plus for interventions delivered by other providers.

For those in employment but struggling with mental health or issues around neurodiversity our Life Coach offers bespoke tailored support including one to ones, counselling referrals to Art Therapy Scarborough and Sparks inhouse counsellors.

COUNSELLING SERVICE

We extended our in-house Counselling service with 5 therapists and 15 more starting in January 2025 due to self referrals. All allowing one to one sessions with UKCP & BACS registered therapists.

"I feel since starting my sessions my level of anxiety has reduced and I can deal with situations confidently and am also able to assert myself with ease."



PCN EMPLOYABILITY PROJECT

We have built a new relationship with Filey, Hunmanby, Southcliff, Danes Dyke and Hackness Road surgeries to support patients who are unemployed or off work due to illness. We offer bespoke support to clients and help tackle issues such as social isolation, lack of confidence and mental health issues. The feedback from the Mental Health Nurses has been brilliant. They have seen a decrease in patients referred to us needing to access the GP surgery and are delighted at the success of our partnership working.

From working one to one with clients, many have moved onto group sessions including crafting, cooking, and walking.



TOTEM ART PROJECT WITH SCARBOROUGH ART @ OPO ART SPACE

We were invited to take part in the TOTEM exhibition at the Old Parcels Office in Scarborough in partnership with Scarborough Art. We were supported by artist Caroline (Bobby) Hick who enabled clients to bring their ideas to life. Our Eastfield craft group rose to the challenge creating an 18-foot-high Totem to represent what Sparks meant to them. The outcome was amazing and was part of an exhibition with five other community groups.

FUN FRIDAY

Walking group and Beach therapy at our North Bay Beach chalet to support people to with mental and physical health as well as social isolation.





NY SPORT “SPARKS GET MOVING”

We are working in partnership with Scarborough Rugby Club to support people to get active. The sessions run every Wednesday afternoon at the Rugby Club, which is a super facility that our clients would not normally access. Due to the location, we use a local taxi service to take clients there and back and we support them whilst trying out various activities including padel tennis, squash, badminton, netball, tennis, circuit training and use of the gym.

We also offer one to one support for our clients including walking, swimming and gym sessions.

The feedback has been great, and clients are feeling more confident trying new activities, communicating with others.



BABY GROUP & PARENT SUPPORT

We have organised some amazing interventions this year with music sessions from Kathy Seabrook, Baby Massage, Pediatric First Aid Training. Donations of cots, prams, nappies, milk and clothes that have gone to grateful clients.

We also introduced a Mum and Baby walking groups and family fun days at our Beach chalet.

PARTNERSHIPS & VOLUNTEERS



SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS & VOLUNTEERS

- Scarborough Rugby Club
- Scarborough Rugby Club Ladies' Day
- Scarborough Rotary International
- Nigel Wood at Peace of Mind Financial Solutions
- Gary Dixon, Scarborough South Cliff Golf Club





BUSINESS BREAKFAST

We have had a great response to our Business Breakfasts with over 60 attendees from small, medium and large local companies. This has allowed us to expand our network and raise awareness of the work we do in local communities. We have also benefitted with businesses choosing Sparks as their charity of the year, which has helped us continue our much-needed work.

REFERERS BREAKFAST

We arranged our first Referrers breakfast with over 40 attendees. This was a great opportunity for organisations to network and share information and was very well received.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Over the year our reserves have increased from £41,640 to £80,555 of which £54,884 are unrestricted reserves. Funder's commitments are still 12 months maximum and the increase in donations from less than £1,000 to over £29,000 has really helped us so much this year.



OUR FUNDERS

A huge Thank you to our Funders October 2023 to 30 September 2024



North Yorkshire
County Council

UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND
ROUND 2



Better
Connect.

UKSPF / LEVELLING UP



Travis Perkins

North
Yorkshire
Sport.



Two Ridings
Community Foundation



Woodsmith
Foundation



AngloAmerican



Humber and North Yorkshire
Health and Care Partnership



Beyond
Housing

OUR FUNDRAISERS

Kathy Lish Sponsored Walk
Nigel Wood
Rotary International
Scarborough Rugby Club Ladies' Day

Scalby Fair
Gary Dixon,
Scarborough South Cliff Golf Club
Baron's Fitness

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

We have some major strides in improving governance and management this year. We have improved our systems operationally and have robust systems to assess clients and signpost to our core services and external agencies.

We have built a strong board of Trustees who wholeheartedly believe in the vital services that SPARKS provide for the most vulnerable in society.

Supported by Woodsmith Foundation we have benefitted from the guidance of Michelle Smith from Quiet Leaders. We now have a clear vision, purpose and values.

VISION

Everyone accessing effective help when they need it.

PURPOSE

Helping people practically and emotionally. Making connections and sparking change in communities.

VALUES

Being Approachable. Giving time and hope. Making a difference.

IDENTIFYING REAL NEEDS AND INSPIRING CHANGE

Supported by Anglo American Foundation we have access to SIGNAL is a tool which helps people identify their real needs while inspiring them to make the changes that are required to transform their lives. At the same time, it enables us to gain clarity and respond more effectively to those needs.

REORGANISATION

We have re-organised our team to make the best use of their exceptional skills. We continue to review our structures and organisation to best meet the needs of our clients who we consult regularly.

DATA CAPTURE

We continue to improve our data capture. Our records are audited every 3 months and we are now confident that our systems are robust and suitable to introduce a CRM system to reduce data processing time and improve data search and reporting capabilities.

VOLUNTEERS

During this year we have attracted more than 20 volunteers to assist in delivering our services. We will continue to search for volunteers that can help us expand the services we offer.

THE FUTURE

We are looking forward to the future with confidence in our governance, trustees and staff. The core services we provide are essential for the communities we serve and we will continue to build our reputation with clients, partner organisations and the wider geographical area.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Sparks Project CIO

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Sparks Project CIO ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the period 22 September 2023 to 30 September 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

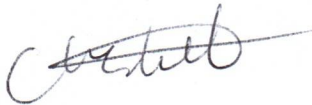
Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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.



Miss Caroline Metcalf MIAB Cert Acc (open)

Metcalf's Accountancy Services
Unit 11, Yorkshire Coast Enterprise Centre
Auborough Street
SCARBOROUGH
North Yorkshire
YO11 1HT

23rd June 2025

Sparks Project CIO

Statement of Financial Activities

for the Period 1 October 2023 to 30 September 2024

	Unrestricted fund	Restricted fund	Total funds
	£	£	£
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD	18098	23542	41,640
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	35,921	-	35,921
Charitable activities			
Activities undertaken directly	83,810	106,717	190,527
Interest Received	269		269
Total	<u>120,000</u>	<u>106,717</u>	<u>226,717</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Support costs	2,164		2,164
Activities undertaken directly	81,905	103,733	185,638
Total	<u>84,069</u>	<u>103,733</u>	<u>187,802</u>
NET INCOME	<u>35,931</u>	<u>2,984</u>	<u>38,915</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>54,029</u>	<u>26,526</u>	<u>80,555</u>

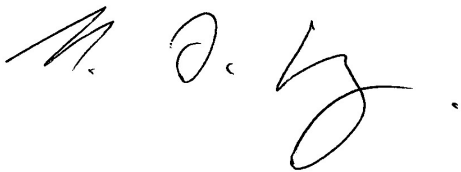
The notes form part of these financial statements

Sparks Project CIO

Balance Sheet At 30 September 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors	4	770	7355	8,125
Cash at bank and in hand		66,377	19,171	85,548
		67,147	26,526	93,673
CREDITORS Amounts falling due within one year	5	13,118	-	13,118
NET CURRENT ASSETS		54,029	26,526	80,555
CURRENT LIABILITIES		-	-	-
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		54,029	-	54,029
NET ASSETS		<u>54,029</u>	<u>26,526</u>	<u>80,555</u>
FUNDS Unrestricted funds	7			54,029
Restricted funds				26,526
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>80,555</u>

The Financial Statements were approved by the board of trustees on 13th June 2025 and were signed on its behalf by Mr M Whiteley



Sparks Project CIO

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Period 1st October 2023 to 30 September 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

2. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the period ended 30 September 2024.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the period ended 30 September 2024.

Sparks Project CIO

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Period 01 October 2023 to 30 September 2024

3. STAFF COSTS The average monthly number of employees during the period was :	At 30.9.24	30.9.23
Management	1	1
Finance Manager	0	1
Life Coaches	3	2
Administration	1	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	TOTALS 5	5

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000. Key management personnel had total benefits of £33494 Previously this was £31069

4. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	£	8125
5.CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	£	-
Social Security & Other Taxes		6895
Pension Liability		555
Accrued Expenses		5668
		<hr/>
		13118
6. Leasing Agreements		-

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

£	
Within one year	5833

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Net Movement In Funds	At 30.9.24	30.9.23
General Fund	35931	54029	18098
Restricted Funds	2984	26526	23542
Total Funds	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	38915	80555	41640

Sparks Project CIO

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Period 01 October 2023 to 30 September 2024

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	119999	84068	35931
Restricted funds			
Restricted	106718	103734	2984
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>226717</u>	<u>187802</u>	<u>38915</u>

8. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The breakdown of restricted funds held in the accounts is as follows:

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenses	Closing Balance
Anglo	225	-	225	-
Cost of Living Crisis	4031	-	4031	-
COUNSELLING	-	2000	2000	-
Measuring Impact	5573	-	5573	-
Police and Crime	2293	-	2293	-
Woodsmith Cost of Living Crisis	465	-	465	-
Wellbeing Workshop	3750	2000	5750	-
NYC	7205	19973	27178	-
Rise To Thrive	-	17993	17993	-
Score PCN	-	21230	21230	-
Travis Perkins / Beyond Housing	-	15000	1239	13761
North Yorkshire Sport	-	18522	5757	12765
Woodsmith 65+	-	10000	10000	-
Total	<u>23542</u>	<u>106718</u>	<u>103734</u>	<u>26526</u>

Sparks Project CIO

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Period 01 October 2023 to 30 September 2024

INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS	30.9.24	30.9.23
Donations and Legacies		
Donations	28743	984
Bursary	6980	120
Interest Received	269	
Charitable Activities		
Grants	190725	198695
Total Income Resources	<u>226717</u>	<u>199799</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable Activities		
Wages Incl Social security	131950	117006
Pensions	2632	2242
Rent	20383	14491
Water Rates	275	341
Heat and Light	842	1059
Telephone and Internet	1835	1544
Printing and Stationary	1409	1285
Minibus Hire	378	307
advertising and Website	3164	431
Motor Expenses	188	183
Insurance	1335	1198
Repairs and Renewals	4327	174
Sundry Expenses	2378	758
Licences and Subscriptions	3201	490.00
Staff Training	3193	2,439.00
Purchases for Clients	2232	563.00
Travel and Trips	40	2,337.00
Food and Refreshments	5486	6,049.00
IT Support	390	-
	<u>185638</u>	<u>152897</u>
Support Costs		
Governance Costs		
Accountancy Fees	2108	2843
Legal and Professional Fees	0	2400
Bank Charges	56	19
	<u>2164</u>	<u>5262</u>
Total Resources Expended	<u>187802</u>	<u>158159</u>
Net Income	<u>38915</u>	<u>41640</u>

NOTES

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Sparks

supporting people and communities

Sparks Project CIO, 30 Wreyfield Drive, Scarborough, YO12 6NN

sparksproject.co.uk | info@sparksproject.co.uk

SPARKS PROJECT CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1200459

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1200459

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Period 22 September 2022 to 30 September 2023
for
Sparks Project CIO

Asquith & Co Accountants Limited
Rowan House
7 West Bank
SCARBOROUGH
North Yorkshire
YO12 4DX

Sparks Project CIO

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for the Period 22 September 2022 to 30 September 2023

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Sparks

supporting people and communities

TRUSTEES REPORT
2022-2023

The Sparks Project CIO

Legal and Administrative Information

Legal Status

We became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 22nd September 2002 and started trading as a CIO on 1st October 2022.

We were a Community Interest Company and this was converted to a CIO on 1st October 2022. Our only voting members are our Trustees.

Trustees

Jane Susan Baxter

Christina Boden

Dr. Asif Firfirey

Michael Whiteley

(appointed 23rd June 2023)

Timothy Loy

(resigned 12th September 2023)

Charity number: 1200459

Principal Address

Sparks Project CIO

30 Wreyfield Drive

Scarborough

YO12 6NN

Independent Examiner

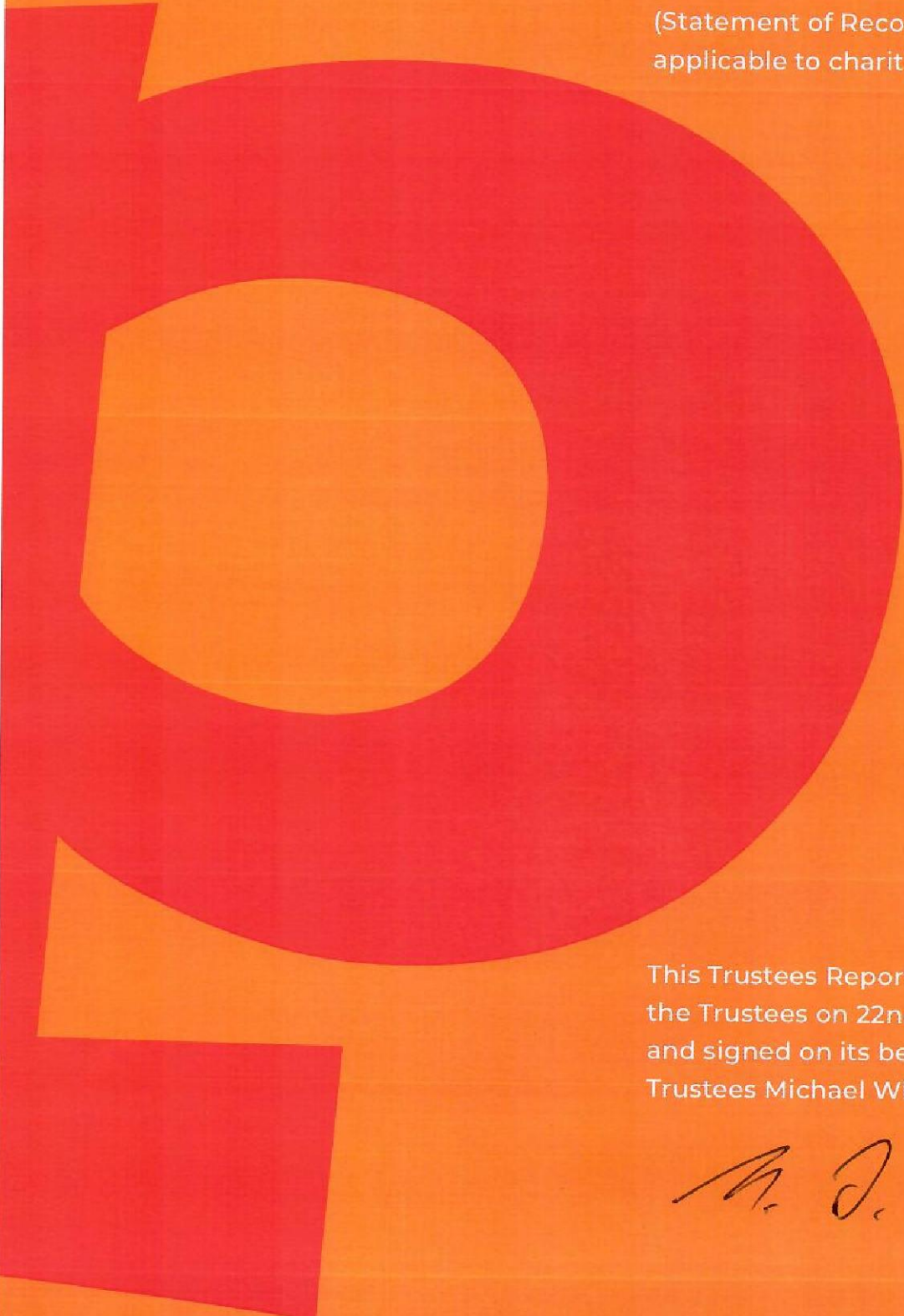
Asquith & Co Accountants Limited

Rowan House

7 West Bank

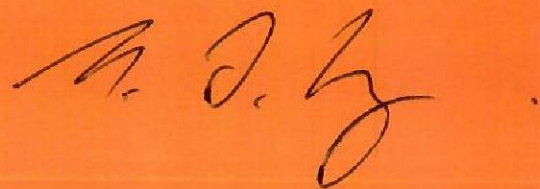
Scarborough

YO12 4DX



The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 30th September 2023. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements. They comply with our charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and FRS 102 (Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities).

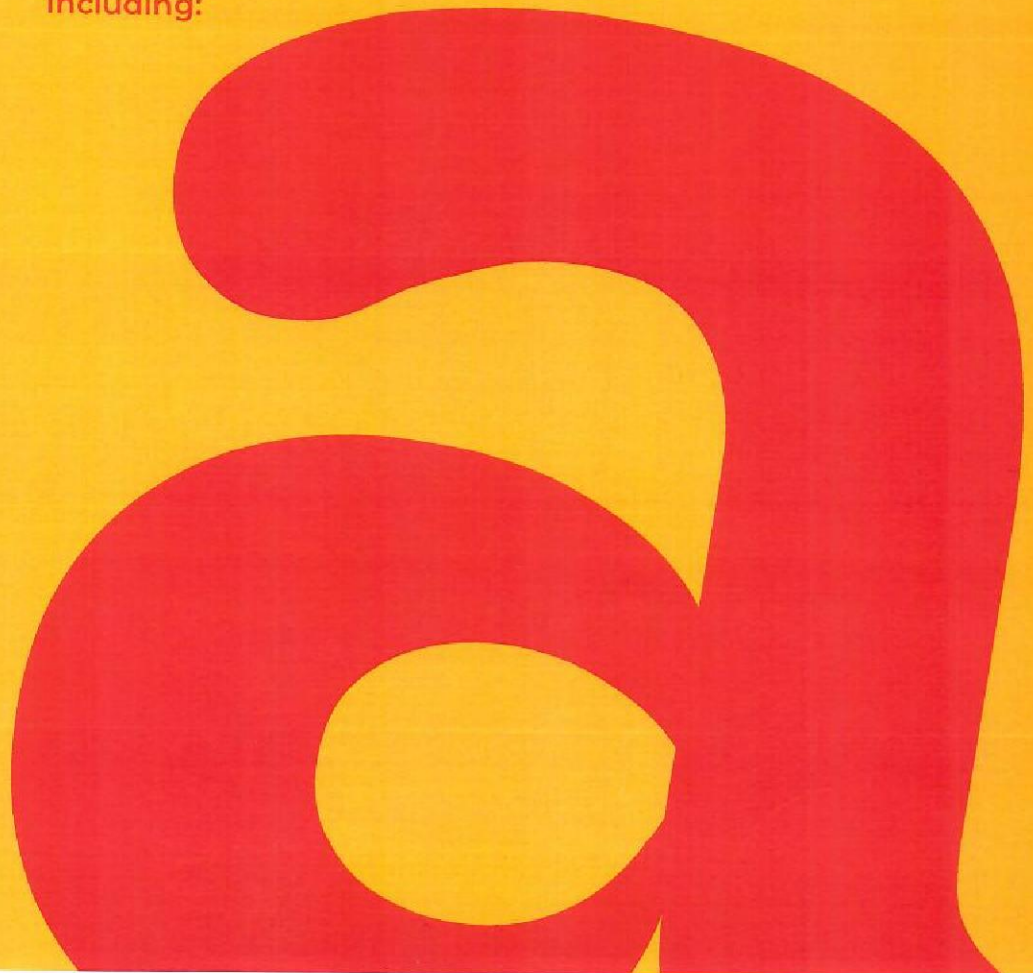
This Trustees Report was approved by the Trustees on 22nd December 2023 and signed on its behalf by our chair of Trustees Michael Whiteley



OBJECTIVE AND ACTIVITIES

As a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), we have our objectives specifically defined in our written constitution. Our objectives are the relief of charitable need arising by reason of age, poor mental or physical health, disability or other social and economic disadvantage in the communities of North Yorkshire, by providing practical hands-on support as well as information, advice, guidance, coaching and counselling.

SPARKS was created in 2018 from community led research with residents identifying a need for an independent organisation based on their estate. 5 years on SPARKS is embedded within the communities we serve and works with residents to develop and deliver services that respond to the needs of people in crisis in Barrowcliff and Eastfield Estates. Both these communities we support are in the 10% most deprived in the country. These people are hard to reach and lack trust in government agencies and statutory bodies. We have 5 core services including:





CRISIS SUPPORT

Food Parcels
Fuel Vouchers
Use of Phones, Laptops and Internet Access
Benefits Support
Mental Health & Wellbeing
Suicide Prevention
Information, Advice & Guidance



CONNECTIONS

Improving connections with others
Group Sessions
Cooking
Crafting
Beach Therapy
Walking
Family and Adult Days Out



COACHING

One-to-One appointments with a Life Coach
Health and Wellbeing
Budgeting and Finances
Goal Setting and Aspirations



COUNSELLING

One-to-One appointments
In-House Trainee Counsellors
BACP and UKCP Registered

Our qualified life coaches have a practical hands-on approach when mentoring and coaching clients in their own homes or in our premises.

Throughout the period the trustees have paid due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

OCT
TO
DEC
2022

We completed our CLLD Programme in both Barrowcliff and Eastfield. This saw the end of a ESF project working with unemployed people furthest from the labour market and building aspirations and confidence to move forward into training and work. This impact of this work is that people feel more confident and have taken control of their own lives and futures. We have empowered individuals to become more resilient and more able to deal with life's stresses without falling into crisis.

We have educated people to become better versions of themselves as individuals and as parents, thus having a positive impact on family relationship, friendships and the community as a whole.

	Barrowcliff	Eastfield	Total
New Starts - Unemployed including long term unemployed	90	46	136
New Starts - Inactive	84	63	147
Participants who are ethnic minorities	3	7	10
Participants with disabilities	94	67	161

ESF RESULTS	Barrowcliff	Eastfield	Total
Participants in education/ training on leaving	55	36	91
Unemployed participants into employment (inc. self employment on leaving)	40	17	57
Inactive participants into employment of job search upon leaving	14	7	21

We completed our "Sparks Days Out" project funded by Anglo American Ambassadors for Good programme. The funding allowed us to have five adult days out and five family days out to various places across North Yorkshire including; York Railway Museum, Flamingo Land, Goathland via a steam train and Playdale farm.

The people who took advantage of the days out all said "they felt more confident going to new places and trying new things". They were grateful for the opportunity to do these activities as all said "they would not have done them at all due anxiety, going alone and or the cost of the trips."

The benefit has been more confident individuals who have built friendships and are less socially isolated and more likely to try new activities in the future.

We continued to deliver our Connection Sessions in both Barrowcliff and Eastfield to reduce social isolation, improve mental and physical health and as part of our suicide prevention work.

MONDAYS

MONDAY CLUB

Various activities with limited spaces

10am - 12noon

OVER 60'S

Tea Chat and games

Eastfield Library

1pm - 3pm

TUESDAYS

CRAFT CLUB

Connecting People

Eastfield Scout Hut

10am - 12noon

SPARKS

Appointments for:

Crisis, Coaching, Careers

1pm - 4pm

WEDNESDAYS

CRAFT CLUB

Connecting People &

Pre-booked Counselling Sessions

Wreyfield Drive Methodist Church

10am - 12noon

SPARKS

Appointments for:

Crisis, Coaching, Careers

1pm - 4pm

THURSDAYS

SPARKS

Appointments for:

Crisis, Coaching, Careers

10am - 12noon

BABY WEIGH

Eastfield Scout Hut

1pm - 3pm

FRIDAYS

BEACH CHALET

WALKING/BEACH THERAPY

Connecting People

10am - 12noon

SPARKS

Appointments for:

Crisis, Coaching, Careers

1pm - 4pm

**JAN
TO
MAR
2023**

We opened our services to people of all ages and people who are in employment. This saw an increase in sign ups of 67 new clients in January 2023 alone!

SHARED PROSPERITY FUND

We successfully delivered the first phase of the Shared Prosperity Fund in both Barrowcliff and Eastfield in contract with North Yorkshire Council.



BUSINESS BREAKFAST IN EASTFIELD

We held our first Business Breakfast in Eastfield with over 25 local businesses in attendance.

Raising our profile and receiving great feedback including offers of funding, being nominated as the charity of the year and offering support to us and our clients

AQUA FIT

We were able to continue our Connection Sessions in Barrowcliff funded by Woodsmith Foundation and our Monday club decided to try out "Aqua Fit!"

This was a huge achievement for clients that were struggling with confidence, body image and anxiety with crowds.

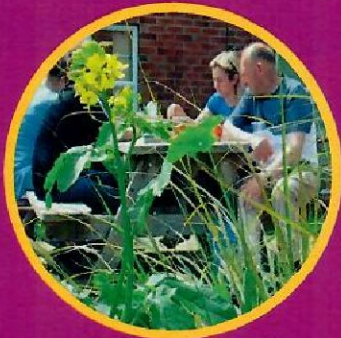
"It was an amazing experience and a new skill to learn and something I will try to continue with, thank you so much Sparks"

CRAFTING & MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT GROUPS

Our Crafting and mental health support groups continued at Wreyfield Methodist Church in Barrowcliff and Eastfield Scout Hut in Eastfield, reducing social isolation in our communities, improving mental health and confidence.

FUN FRIDAY

Walking group and Beach therapy at our North Bay Beach chalet to support people to with mental and physical health as well as social isolation.



65+ AGE GROUP

We started working with people age 65+ plus via our funding from Woodsmith Foundation.

SIGNAL LIFE MAPPING TOOL

We are working with Anglo American to pilot a client survey tool called SIGNAL which is a Life Mapping tool we can use with clients to see which areas of their life they would like to focus on and goal set to move forward.

**APR
TO
JUN
2023**

CONNECTION SESSIONS

Connection Sessions continued in Barrowcliff and Eastfield with 65+ group, cooking, and crafting as part of are weekly sessions to reduce social isolation and to improve mental health and confidence.



BABY WEIGH AND PARENT SUPPORT

We started a new Baby weigh and parent support group in partnership with Eastfield Medical Centre. The NHS had decommissioned baby weigh groups and we identified this as a priority need in the area. This has gone from strength to strength and the feedback has been excellent. We have engaged with over 92 adults and 89 children over a 6 month period.

COUNSELLING SERVICE

We extended our in-house Counselling service into Eastfield and are able to offer one to one sessions with a UKCP registered therapist.

"I feel since starting my sessions my level of anxiety has reduced and I can deal with situations confidently and am also able to assert myself with ease."

SCALBY WALK

We were the charity of choice for SCALBY WALK which raised our profile and funding of £2,800, this also led to us recruiting another trustee who is now our chair of Trustees.



JUL
TO
SEP
2023



BBC RADIO YORK MAKE A DIFFERENCE AWARDS

Our CEO becomes a member of the See Change Leadership Board which oversees the delivery of a project looking at ways Voluntary, private sector, and public sector can work better together to eliminate Health inequalities. Sparks were finalists in the BBC Radio York Make a Difference awards and received the "Highly Commended Community Group Award"

R

FINANCIA REVIE

Our total reserves at the end of the year were £41,640 of which £23,542 were restricted. Our objective is to hold reserves of at least 12 months turnover.

Our sources of income and more likely to come from charitable foundations and this is the primary reason we converted from a Community Interest Company (CIC) to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. The success of funding applications and private donations will be critical to Sparks continuing. The filing of these accounts will allow us to pitch to more charitable foundations that specifically support the most deprived areas of the country in which we operate.

Since our year end, we have been notified of grant awards and received donations of over £70,000 which means that we now have reserves representing over 7 months turnover.

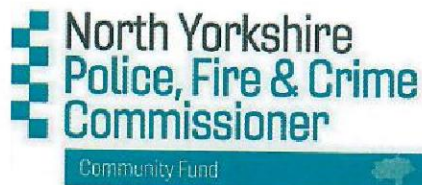
OUR FUNDERS

A huge Thank you to our Funders October 2022 to 30 September 2023



EASTFIELD PACT

UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND
ROUND 1



PRIVATE
DONATIONS

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

We have some major strides in improving governance and management this year. We have improved our systems operationally and have robust systems to assess clients and signpost to our core services and external agencies.

We have built a strong board of Trustees who wholeheartedly believe in the vital services that SPARKS provide for the most vulnerable in society.

Supported by Woodsmith Foundation we have benefitted from the guidance of Michelle Smith from Quiet Leaders. We now have a clear vision, purpose and values.

VISION

Everyone accessing effective help when they need it.

PURPOSE

Helping people practically and emotionally. Making connections and sparking change in communities.

VALUES

Being Approachable. Giving time and hope. Making a difference.

MEASURING IMPACT

Supported by North Yorkshire Council's Stronger Communities Fund we have worked with Alan Graver on how we measure impact. This work enabled us to focus on the services we provide and present them in a coherent way and to monitor the difference we make.

IDENTIFYING REAL NEEDS AND INSPIRING CHANGE

Supported by Anglo American Foundation we have access to SIGNAL is a tool which helps people identify their real needs while inspiring them to make the changes that are required to transform their lives. At the same time, it enables us to gain clarity and respond more effectively to those needs.

UPDATED ACCOUNTANCY SOFTWARE

We have with the help of our accountants Asquith & Co updated our accounting software so that we can properly measure all income and expenditure including being able to report on the restricted funds.

THE FUTURE

We are looking forward to the future with confidence in our governance, trustees and staff. The core services we provide are essential for the communities we serve and we will continue to build our reputation with clients, partner organisations and the wider geographical area.



Sparks

supporting people and communities

Sparks Project CIO, 30 Wreyfield Drive, Scarborough, YO12 6NN

sparksproject.co.uk | info@sparksproject.co.uk

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Sparks Project CIO

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Sparks Project CIO ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the period 22 September 2022 to 30 September 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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.



Miss Jennifer Springham FCCA

Asquith & Co Accountants Limited
Rowan House
7 West Bank
SCARBOROUGH
North Yorkshire
YO12 4DX

22 December 2023

Sparks Project CIO

Statement of Financial Activities

for the Period 22 September 2022 to 30 September 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM				
Donations and legacies		1,104	-	1,104
Charitable activities				
Activities undertaken directly		<u>50,191</u>	<u>148,504</u>	<u>198,695</u>
Total		<u>51,295</u>	<u>148,504</u>	<u>199,799</u>
EXPENDITURE ON				
Charitable activities				
Support costs		3,477	885	4,362
Activities undertaken directly		<u>29,721</u>	<u>124,076</u>	<u>153,797</u>
Total		<u>33,198</u>	<u>124,961</u>	<u>158,159</u>
NET INCOME		<u>18,098</u>	<u>23,542</u>	<u>41,640</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>18,098</u></u>	<u><u>23,542</u></u>	<u><u>41,640</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Sparks Project CIO

Balance Sheet
30 September 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors	4	1,189	-	1,189
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>23,278</u>	<u>23,542</u>	<u>46,820</u>
		24,467	23,542	48,009
CREDITORS				
Amounts falling due within one year	5	(6,369)	-	(6,369)
		<u>18,098</u>	<u>23,542</u>	<u>41,640</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS				
		<u>18,098</u>	<u>23,542</u>	<u>41,640</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES				
		<u>18,098</u>	<u>23,542</u>	<u>41,640</u>
NET ASSETS				
		<u>18,098</u>	<u>23,542</u>	<u>41,640</u>
FUNDS	7			
Unrestricted funds				18,098
Restricted funds				<u>23,542</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>41,640</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 22 December 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

M J Whiteley - Trustee

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

2. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the period ended 30 September 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the period ended 30 September 2023.

Sparks Project CIO

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Period 22 September 2022 to 30 September 2023

3. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the period was as follows:

Management	1
Finance manager	1
Life Coaches	2
Administration	<u>1</u>
	<u>5</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

Key management personnel had total benefits of £31,069.

4. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

Prepayments	£ <u>1,189</u>
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5. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

Social security and other taxes	£ 2,036
Pension liability	438
Accrued expenses	<u>3,895</u>
	<u>6,369</u>

6. LEASING AGREEMENTS

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

Within one year	£ <u>5,833</u>
-----------------	-------------------

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Net movement in funds £	At 30.9.23 £
Unrestricted funds		
General fund	18,098	18,098
Restricted funds		
Restricted	23,542	23,542
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>41,640</u>	<u>41,640</u>

Sparks Project CIO

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Period 22 September 2022 to 30 September 2023

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	51,296	(33,198)	18,098
Restricted funds			
Restricted	148,503	(124,961)	23,542
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>199,799</u>	<u>(158,159)</u>	<u>41,640</u>

8. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The breakdown of restricted funds held in the accounts is as follows:

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenses	Closing Balance
Anglo	Nil	£2,787	£2,563	£224
Cost of Living Crisis	Nil	£6,980	£2,949	£4,031
ERYC	Nil	£24,160	£24,160	£Nil
Measuring Impact	Nil	£9,724	£4,152	£5,572
Police and Crime	Nil	£10,000	£7,707	£2,293
Woodsmith Cost of Living Crisis	Nil	£3,000	£2,535	£465
SBC	Nil	£76,853	£69,648	£7,205
Woodsmith 65+	Nil	£15,000	£11,250	£3,750
Total				£23,540

Sparks Project CIO

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Period 22 September 2022 to 30 September 2023

	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS	
Donations and legacies	
Donations	984
Bursary	<u>120</u>
	1,104
Charitable activities	
Grants	<u>198,695</u>
Total incoming resources	199,799
EXPENDITURE	
Charitable activities	
Wages	107,859
Social security	9,147
Pensions	2,242
Rent	14,491
Water rates	341
Heat and light	1,059
Telephone and internet	1,544
Printing and stationery	1,285
Minibus hire	307
Advertising and website	431
Motor expenses	183
Insurance	1,198
Repairs and renewals	174
Sundry expenses	758
Licences and subscriptions	490
Staff training	2,439
Purchases for clients	563
Travel and trips	2,337
Food and refreshments	<u>6,049</u>
	152,897
Support costs	
Governance costs	
Accountancy fees	2,843
Legal and professional fees	2,400
Bank charges	<u>19</u>
	<u>5,262</u>
Total resources expended	<u>158,159</u>
Net income	<u><u>41,640</u></u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements