

Trustees annual report

01/06/2024 – 31/05/2025

COTGRAVE COMMUNITY GARDEN

Charity number: 1202900

Objectives and Activities

Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out its governing document

“To provide facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation by providing an area for use as a community garden and other activities for individuals in Cotgrave and the surrounding area, who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants.”

The trustees can confirm that the purposes as laid out above were met. Bi-weekly volunteer events ensured the residents of Cotgrave had access to the community garden and could enjoy as set out above. Other organisations have also benefited, including a local youth group who have been working in the garden towards ASDAN accreditation. Partnership with Metropolitan Housing (local HA) has continued to grow and prove fruitful through open days for residents.

The core group of volunteers is stable at 44 members. Additional open days and events such as Mothers Day flowers and Christmas wreaths, workshops on herbal health have also supported the purpose and created opportunity for Cotgrave residents to benefit from the garden.

The CCG continued to develop as a horticultural project, which can provide healthy food, grown using organic principles by and for local people. To provide an outdoor space where residents of all ages can access the space and enjoy the food, through (and not exclusively), community dinners, cooked with the food grown on site.

The Trustees confirm that they have had regard to the Charity Commission’s guidance on public benefit.

Achievements and Performance

The main achievement of the charity has been to continue a consistency of service for local residents. To ensure that access to the Cotgrave

Community Garden (CCG) is open and freely accessible to everyone during the stated opening hours and meeting our charitable aims.

Throughout 2024, we delivered weekly supplies of fruit and vegetables grown at the garden to the Cotgrave Community Kitchen (social supermarket). Supplying throughout the year approximately up to 30kg of free and low cost healthy food.

To broaden engagement further, we successfully achieved confirmation of funding to develop a sensory area to the garden. This will enrich the experience of the garden with our community members from vulnerable groups such as the pupils from the local special needs school and the dementia group.

The dementia group have been holding weekly sessions of 20 plus dementia sufferers and their carers at the garden.

We've welcomed 4 people through social prescribing, and they have become valued members of our volunteer group and attending the garden has been a place of solace and a safe stepping stone back into the wider community.

The on-going programme with young people at risk of exclusion from school continued to develop well, in partnership with Trent Bridge Trust. These young people had the opportunity to build fire pits; bird boxes, plant vegetables and work towards an ASDAN accreditation in horticulture.

Our valued partnership with Metropolitan Housing continued. With over 600 residences in Cotgrave, the CCG has been able to host residents at 4 open days, welcoming families with free food and refreshments and entertainment.

We've hosted pupils and staff from Ash Lea Special needs school for sessions on connecting with nature, picking strawberries and enjoying the calm and tranquil space.

Our other local school, Candleby Lane, have also been actively engaged in the growing space.

Throughout the year, the number of individuals who attended open days; attended community dinners and participated in volunteering activities was over 1000 people.

As Trustees we regularly review our service provision and the feedback from volunteers. We are proud to report that we have at least 20 core volunteers who rely on access to the CCG for their mental health and social connection. Many more use the drop in sessions and open days

and all report positive experience and a benefit from being outside in a shared space.

Financial Review

The Trustees are proud to report that the financial situation at the end of the period remains stable. Costs have been minimised and resources used effectively.

The CCG does not have a policy for holding reserves. The CCG is solely reliant on gaining external funding. Many of the funding bids we receive are restricted funding; meaning the funds must be spent on a specific project. Hence, we are not in a financial position to hold reserves.

We do not have any material deficit.

As stated above we rely on fundraising efforts from a range of funders including the National Lottery, Rushcliffe Borough Council, Cotgrave Town Council, the RHS and others. There is never a 100% guarantee that funding will be available, although in our 5 years in operation we have not experienced a period with zero funding.

Structure, Governance and Management

The CCG is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), governed by its constitution document which lays out the charitable objects and lists the Trustees

Trustees are appointed by agreement between the interested party, the existing trustees and the CCG Project Lead. Trustees are appointed from the volunteer cohort and are already established and active participants to the CCG.

Trustee recruitment has been prioritised this year, a number of candidates have been considered, and we have successfully recruited at the end of this financial period.

Reference and Administrative details

Cotgrave Community Garden (CCG)

Registered charity number: 1202900

Charity's principal address: 2 Pinfold Close, Cotgrave, Nottingham, NG12 3QX

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)
Fiona Fernandez			
Nia Harris			

Declarations

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

Signature:



Full name:

Fiona Jayne Fernandez

30 March 2026



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name		No (if any)		CC16a
Receipts and payments accounts				
For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date	
	01/06/2024		31/05/2025	

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 £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	1,960	45	-	2,005	1,804
LA Grants	-	7,250	-	7,250	-
Services	-	1,140	-	1,140	950
Grants	40	23,040	-	23,080	10,450
Other	630	535	-	1,165	3,171
Income charitable activities	29	-	-	29	-
Opening balance	1,700	-	-	1,700	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	4,359	32,010	-	36,369	19,992
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	4,359	32,010	-	36,369	19,992
A3 Payments					
Charitable activities	-	190	-	190	4,975
Governance & support	-	1,477	-	1,477	520
Staff Project lead	4,348	9,252	-	13,600	12,790
Services	-	308	-	308	-
Supplies & Infrastructure	11	1,594	-	1,605	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	4,359	12,821	-	17,180	18,285
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	4,359	12,821	-	17,180	18,285
Net of receipts/(payments)	1	19,188	-	19,188	1,707
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	1	19,188	-	19,188	1,707

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	main bank account	-	19,188	-
		-	-	-

		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	-	19,188	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account (s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
	Details	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
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 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	
	<i>FJ Fernandez</i>	Fiona Fernandez	31/03/2026	

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.

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

Signed:



Date:

31/03/2026

Name:

Ryan Blair

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

Managing director

Address:

16 Lilac Close

Keyworth

NG12 5DN

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.

None



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the
trustees/directors/
members of

COTGRIVE COMMUNITY GARDEN

On accounts for the year
ended

01/06/2024

31/05/2025

Charity no.:

1202900

Company no.:

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31/05/2025.

As the charity's trustees of the Company (who are also the directors of the company 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 for this year 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

[The company's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 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
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

