

ASTON - MANSFIELD

England & Wales · Charity number 220085

Details

Other names	COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT UNIT, DURNING HALL COMMUNITY CENTRE, FROUD COMMUNITY CENTRE, LAMBOURNE END CENTRE, THE JUNCTION
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	00048350
Registered	1963-11-21
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

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Activities

Objects: (A) TO PROMOTE THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION.(B) TO RELIEVE POVERTY, SICKNESS AND DISTRESS, ADVANCE EDUCATION AND PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE HEALTH OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY IN EAST LONDON AND ELSEWHERE ("THE AREA OF BENEFIT").(C) TO DEVELOP THE CAPACITY AND SKILLS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY IN THE AREA OF BENEFIT IN SUCH A WAY THAT THEY ARE BETTER ABLE TO IDENTIFY AND HELP MEET THEIR NEEDS AND TO PARTICIPATE MORE FULLY IN SOCIETY.(D) TO PROVIDE OR ASSIST IN THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR RECREATION OR OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY IN THE AREA OF BENEFIT IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR THOSE PERSONS WHO NEED THE FACILITIES BY REASON OF THEIR YOUTH, AGE, INFIRMITY OR DISABLEMENT, POVERTY OR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES.(E) TO PROMOTE RELIGIOUS HARMONY FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT.(F) TO PROMOTE ANY OTHER CHARITABLE OBJECT.

Activities: The objects of the charity are to develop the community wealth of East London and promote a diverse and inclusive society in which all are free to participate. These are achieved through a number of structured programmes and a range of activities supporting people of all ages, creeds, cultures and abilities, principally within the London Borough of Newham.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** EAST LONDON AND ELSEWHERE
- Newham

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£1,758,886	£1,828,010	£1,531,358	34
2024-03-31	£1,622,723	£1,689,603	£1,600,482	42
2023-03-31	£1,612,723	£1,744,108	£1,667,362	54
2022-03-31	£1,619,019	£1,613,101	£1,798,747	44
2021-03-31	£1,550,991	£1,444,127	£1,792,829	42

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Alex Patrick Minford		2016-07-19
Amanda Whiteford		2025-01-21
MAHENDRA SAVJANI		2018-01-16
NOOR CHOUDHARY		2015-03-10
Rev Jeremy Fraser		2020-01-14
Tendai Munjayi		2023-01-24

ASTON - MANSFIELD

England & Wales - Charity number 220085

Accounts

ASTON-MANSFIELD
(A company limited by guarantee)
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Charity Registration Number: 220085

Company Number: 48350

ASTON MANSFIELD

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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ASTON-MANSFIELD

REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Trustees	Amanda Whiteford	(Chair) Appointed 21 January 2025
	Christopher C Keen	(Chair) Resigned 21 January 2025
	Alex Minford	(Deputy Chair)
	Tendai Munjayi	(Treasurer)
	Aadil Ravat	(Young Trustee) Appointed 11 March 2025
		Resigned 12 August 2025)
	Asif Mangera	Resigned 16 September 2025
	Rev Jeremy Fraser	
	Louis Baxter	(Young Trustee) Appointed 11 March 2025
		Resigned 12 August 2025)
	Mahendra Savjani	
	Mohammad Khan	Resigned 14 May 2025
	Noor Choudary	
	Rehan Akhtar	Resigned 21 December 2024
Chief Executive Officer	Diane Betts	Joined 14 July 2025
Secretary	Eileen Da-Silva	
Bankers	National Westminster Bank Plc	Co-operative Bank Plc
	Ground Floor, Gredley House 1-11 Broadway Stratford London E15 4WG	80 Cornhill London EC3V 3NJ
Auditors	HaysMac LLP 10 Queen Street Place London EC4R 1AG	
Solicitors	Russell-Cooke 2 Putney Hill Putney London SW15 6AB	
Registered Office	Aston-Mansfield Community Centre Unit 1, 1 Toronto Avenue Manor Park London E12 5JF	

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report and the audited financial statements of the organisation for the year ended 31 March 2025 which have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (revised 2019) and the Companies Act 2006.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the charity are to develop the community wealth of East London and promote a diverse and inclusive society in which all are free to participate. These are achieved through several structured programmes and a range of activities supporting people of all ages, creeds, cultures, and abilities, principally within the London Borough of Newham.

The Newham Context

Newham remains one of the most economically vulnerable boroughs in London, with residents facing a combination of high living costs and low wages. The borough has a young, ethnically diverse population, with many large families affected by the two-child benefit cap. The long-term impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, coupled with the ongoing cost of living crisis, have exacerbated existing poverty levels, making life increasingly difficult for the people we work with, as well as for many of our staff and volunteers. Rising living costs have pushed individuals who were previously managing into poverty.

Key Statistics for Newham

- In 2022/23, an estimated 38% of all Newham residents, and 44% of children, were living in poverty after housing costs were considered, significantly higher than the London averages. [endchildpoverty.org.uk/2Newham Council/2Trust for London/2](https://endchildpoverty.org.uk/2Newham-Council/2Trust-for-London/2)
- Newham has the highest rate of fuel poverty in London, with 14.4% of households affected. [GOV.UK/2North East Londoner/2Newham Council/2](https://gov.uk/2North-East-Londoner/2Newham-Council/2)
- The borough is the most ethnically diverse in London, with 69.2% of residents identifying as non-white. [Trust for London](https://trustforlondon.org/)
- In 2024, 23.5% of residents were estimated to be earning below the Living Wage. [Trust for London](https://trustforlondon.org/)
- Newham's Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) score is 29.6, higher than both the London and England averages, indicating a greater level of deprivation. [Newham Council](https://newham.gov.uk/)
- The borough has the highest rate of destitution in the country, with a rate of 2.01%. [North East Londoner](https://north-east-londoner.org/)

In response to these challenges, we have increased our emotional and practical support for families, adapted our food distribution services, expanded our work with vulnerable children, young people, and families, and enhanced our focus on mental health and well-being

We supported not only individual wellbeing and resilience, but also neighbourhood infrastructure and civil society. This report outlines each programme area, with direct stories, outcomes, and reflections from those we serve.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

2024-2025: A Year of Transition and Change

This year marked a pivotal chapter in our organisation's journey, one defined by significant movement, thoughtful change, and forward momentum. After several years of planning and negotiation, we finalised the sale of our primary community facility, Durning Hall. The aging building required modernisation at the expense of service provision. This important decision enabled us to consolidate our services and fully transition operations to our Community Centre in Manor Park.

The shift to a single site required a comprehensive restructuring of our support and facilities teams to reflect our new operational model. This transformation was not without its challenges, but it has allowed us to align our resources more effectively and prepare for a more focused future.

We also experienced major leadership transitions during the year. In December 2024, we said farewell to our long-standing CEO, Claire Helman, who stepped down after 11 years of exceptional service. Claire's vision, commitment, and leadership were instrumental in shaping who we are today, and we are deeply grateful for the legacy she leaves behind.

In January 2025, we appointed an Interim CEO to steer the organisation through this period of transition. Their leadership has provided continuity and stability whilst we completed the recruitment of a new permanent CEO in July 2025.

Alongside this, we also marked a change in governance. We bid farewell to our long-standing Chair, Chris Keen, whose dedication and guidance have supported the organisation through many critical phases of growth and change. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Chris for his incredible 25 years of steady governance and stewardship. In January 2025, we welcomed Amanda Whiteford as the new Chair of the Board. Amanda brings a wealth of experience in human resources and organisational leadership, and we are excited about the expertise and fresh perspective she brings to this role.

This year also marked the eighth year of implementing our long-term strategic plan, *Creating the Future*. This strategy continues to guide our work and sharpen our focus on what matters most to the communities we serve.

A summary of the strategy is provided below.

Creating the Future – In summary

VISION

We want to see more children, young people and families in Newham and East London leading happy healthy lives, realising their potential and unlocking their ambition.

MISSION

Using an integrated and community focused approach we will make long lasting change, offering opportunity, community and inspiration to children, families and young people in Newham and East London.

WE WILL

- Offer a continuum of support, through both direct delivery and signposting, from cradle to career. We will nurture relationships, offer opportunity, community and inspiration throughout our provision.
- Build on our current children and youth programmes, collaborating with inspirational and successful individuals and organisations to offer the best opportunities and experiences.
- Continue to develop and seek out partnerships with the community, voluntary, public and business sectors to ensure that our work is relevant, complementary to other service provisions, sustainable and embedded in best practice.
- Give children, young people and families greater opportunities to thrive and flourish, we will share our expertise and methodologies with other organisations to help inform best practice in the sector.

MAJOR CHANGES

- A move away from our focus on community buildings. Instead we will focus on people-oriented service provision and effective service provision.
- Shifting our voluntary sector capacity building work to focus on organisations working with children, young people and families and development of social enterprises.
- Growing our current children and families programme to include a wider age range and to be present in more geographical areas.
- Growing our youth programme. To cater to the wide and varied needs of young people in Newham and East London.
- Introducing a social enterprise aspect to our ecosystem to create more employment and training opportunities, particularly for young people, and to improve the financial sustainability of our work.

WAYS OF WORKING

- Ecosystems: we work with the ecosystem of organisations effecting children, young people and families, and we create a strong organisational ecosystem.
- 'Giving something back': building opportunities for people who have benefitted from our work to become part of the next generation of Aston-Mansfield, for example as volunteers, staff and supporters.
- An integrated approach: understanding that we are one element of people's lives, and that by working with others within their networks we can improve our impact.
- Successful, ambitious, and enterprising: continuing to learn, innovating, and staying relevant.
- Impact led: understanding and measuring the difference that we make and changing and adapting our work to improve our impact.

Throughout this year of transformation, one constant has been the resilience, professionalism, and unwavering commitment of our staff. Their ability to adapt, stay focused, and continue delivering high-quality services has been nothing short of inspiring. We are proud of all that has been achieved in the face of change. The section below will detail our overall achievements and also our Impact and Reach across all of our services.

Achievements and Performance

In 2024–2025, we made significant progress against our strategy, with clear steps forward in leadership, service delivery, community engagement and infrastructure support. Highlights included:

- **Strengthening Youth Leadership in Governance:** We advanced our commitment to youth-led change by appointing two new Young Trustees and continuing to embed young people's voices in our governance structures.
- **Major Relocation:** We completed the sale of Durning Hall and successfully consolidated our operations at Aston-Mansfield Community Centre (formerly known as Froud Centre), enabling staff to work more collaboratively and making better use of shared space.
- **Growing Children's Services:** Our children's programmes continued to expand, welcoming more families and providing enriching play and learning opportunities.
- **Youth Engagement:** We worked with over 500 young people in Newham through co-designed, relevant activities that support growth, belonging, and leadership.
- **Support for Local Organisations:** More than 20 grassroots groups received tailored infrastructure support, including training, coaching, and capacity-building.
- **Refreshed Strategic Framework:** We reviewed and updated our Theory of Change to guide future planning, delivery and impact measurement.
- **Stronger Partnerships:** We deepened collaboration with borough-wide partners — including One Newham, Community Links and Mind — and played an active role in cross-sector conferences, workshops and collective initiatives that strengthen the local VCS.

Our Year in Numbers

In 2024–25, Aston-Mansfield delivered services and support across a wide range of needs and communities:

- **181** individual children took part in play, learning and enrichment programmes which delivered over 1100 sessions
- **441** young people engaged in youth development, heritage and leadership work
- **210** adults living with serious mental illness were supported through trauma-informed care
- **20+** community organisations received infrastructure training and coaching
- **150+** individuals took part in wellbeing and peer-led creative programmes
- **60+** community groups accessed space to deliver vital services
- **40** volunteers gained confidence, skills and connection through inclusive roles
-

Achievements By Area of Work

A) Children's Services: Achievements and Impact Summary (2024–25)

Aston-Mansfield's Children's Services continue to play a vital role in supporting children and families across Newham through a year-round offer of care, enrichment, food provision and early intervention. Our services include the Little Manor Play Project, the Manor transitional youth programme, the Little Manor Supermarket, and participated in the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme. Together, these touch the lives of hundreds of children every year, supporting emotional wellbeing, physical health, learning and family stability.

Little Manor Play Project

Operating 50 weeks a year, the Little Manor Play Project provides affordable, accessible childcare for children aged 5–12. Designed for working families, parents in education or those needing respite, the service includes afterschool clubs and full-day holiday provision.

- **Afterschool Club:** Children are collected from local schools in Manor Park and walk with staff to the Aston-Mansfield Community Centre, where they enjoy structured play, creative activities and a hot meal before being collected at 6pm.
- **Holiday Playscheme & Breakfast Club:** Running from 8:00am to 6:00pm during school holidays, this programme offers breakfast, lunch, and healthy snacks alongside a rich mix of onsite and offsite activities. Children take part in crafts, team games, nature sessions, and cultural outings.

The programme is co-designed with children, giving them a say in what they do and encouraging independence and confidence.

"My son enjoyed it so much. He was coming home very excited about the trips and... tired after a day full of fun! As a single working mum I wouldn't be able to provide those experiences. You made a massive difference to our small family." — Parent

"The team are consistent and kind. I feel safe leaving my children there, and they always come home happy." — Parent

The Manor Youth Programme

The Manor supports 11–14-year-olds during the early years of secondary school, offering space to explore identity, build resilience, and grow community connection. It runs during school holidays and is co-designed with participants.

Workshops cover wellbeing, community action, emotional literacy and leadership. Offsite trips and group projects allow young people to build friendships and gain skills. Volunteering and self-led initiatives are key features.

"This is where I learned that I can be a leader. I used to be quiet. Now I help other people when they feel anxious." — Young person

"The Manor helped me understand how to express myself and ask for help when I need it." — Young person

Case Study: Mason's Journey Mason, aged 12, joined The Manor while struggling to come to terms with an autism diagnosis and recent family breakdown. Initially reserved, Mason would often remove himself from the group when overwhelmed. With support from staff, he gradually found comfort in the group and gained tools to manage social dynamics. His peers adapted to better include him, and over time Mason emerged as a thoughtful, active contributor. His reflections from the summer include:

1. "I learnt how to make more friends."
2. "I am in charge of my happiness. Focusing on positive things helps."
3. "I learnt how to serve parents in a shop and be patient."

"We remain in contact with Mason and his family. His story is a powerful reminder of how inclusive, child-led environments can support healing and growth." — Programme Lead

Little Manor Supermarket

Our on-site food club supports all families registered with our children's programmes. Stocked weekly with fresh produce from City Harvest and The Felix Project, the supermarket enables parents to pick up essential items and engage with staff around wider needs.

- Families book weekly collection slots
- Staff use these sessions to check in, signpost, and offer informal support
- Follow-ups include help with housing, mental health, and financial pressures

"Going to collect from the Food Club is a lifesaver, especially during the holidays. I can't put in words how much it helps me budget." — Parent

"Sometimes it's just having someone to talk to when things are tough." — Parent

Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme

Our HAF programme is fully funded by the Department for Education and provides enriching holiday care to children eligible for Free School Meals and children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). Children attend the full day offer free of charge and access the food club.

- Partnerships with schools and social workers ensure families are identified early
- Every child receives meals, care, activities and access to emotional support
- Highlights included a cycling programme that taught many to ride for the first time, culminating in an 8-mile group ride

"The children couldn't wait to tell us about it when we returned to school. The staff went above and beyond to meet the needs of the whole family." — Christine Lewis, Deputy DSL, Sheringham Primary

Impact Snapshot

- **181** children engaged in play and enrichment activities
- **1,103** sessions delivered across the year
- **136** HAF-funded places, including **54** for children with SEND
- **78** families (288 individuals) supported weekly via the Little Manor Supermarket

Measured Outcomes

- 93% of Manor participants reported improved mental health
- 86% felt more physically active and healthy
- 83% reported reduced stress and anxiety
- 100% saw improvement in peer communication and social connection
- 79% felt a stronger sense of belonging

"All the staff have really helped my child, particularly with emotional wellbeing. It's made a big difference to our family." — Parent

You're helping us raise our children. Thank you for that." — Parent

B) Youth Services:

Aston-Mansfield's Youth Services empower young people aged 14–21 in Newham through creative, skills-based, and culturally relevant programming. In 2024–25, our work focused on community connection, youth voice, heritage, and leadership. From peer-led projects to public events, our approach is rooted in trust and designed to create safe, affirming spaces where young people can grow and lead.

New Voices for Old Stories (Heritage Project)

This two-year heritage and storytelling programme invited young people aged 16–21 to explore local history, identity, and culture. Participants reinterpreted stories from Aston-Mansfield's archive through digital media, group dialogue and creative expression.

- **38 young people** and **2 volunteers** participated in weekly sessions
- Skills developed: research, archiving, digital storytelling, teamwork, and public speaking
- Projects will culminate in a showcase event open to the community

"I never thought I'd be interested in history, but learning about our local archives and turning them into stories people can connect with was really powerful." — Participant, age 17

Motiv! Programme

Motiv! is a dynamic, youth-led programme for 14–21-year-olds in Newham. Across 15 months, young people took part in:

- 74 Motiv! sessions and 26 one-to-one mentoring sessions
- Workshops on peer pressure, mental health, identity and safety
- Group activities led by **12 paid Young Facilitators** who co-designed and delivered content

Facilitators received professional training in youth work and leadership. Sessions were responsive, inclusive and co-created with participants.

"My role as a Young Facilitator helped me become more confident and personable. I use the soft skills I gained here every day." — Young Facilitator, age 22

"Since joining Motiv!, I've made friends and learnt how to plan events. I speak up more now." — Participant

Case Study: Ahmed's Journey Ahmed, 17, was referred to Motiv! due to low confidence and growing disengagement from school. At first withdrawn, he slowly built relationships and found purpose in co-leading a session on boxing. With encouragement and consistent mentoring, Ahmed began exploring career options and is now applying to study Sports Coaching.

"I'm more confident speaking in front of others now. I didn't think I'd say that."

Youth Survey Networking Event In November 2024, we hosted a borough-wide Youth Networking Event, attended by young people and professionals. It created space to reflect on findings from our survey of 500 Newham youth. Discussions helped shape our programme delivery and strengthen local partnerships.

Community Iftar In March 2025, over 50 guests attended our Community Iftar, hosted by young people to celebrate Ramadan and encourage interfaith connection.

"It created a meaningful space where young people could explore identity, ask questions, and just be themselves."

Youth Services: By the Numbers

- 441 young people engaged across all strands
- 3 community events co-led by youth
- 12 paid Young Facilitators employed and trained
- 38 youth-led heritage participants
- 74 group sessions, 26 one-to-one sessions

Key Outcomes

- Increased confidence and self-esteem among participants
- Improved emotional wellbeing and coping skills
- Greater understanding of decision-making and personal safety
- Stronger sense of belonging and peer support
- Embedded youth voice at governance level through the appointment of two Young Trustees

"It's been amazing to see how much my son has grown in confidence. He comes home talking about everything he's learned." — Parent

C) Community Connectors: Achievements and Impact (2024–25)

Our Community Connectors team provided personalised support for 210 individuals experiencing serious mental illness, delivering 326 one-to-one and group sessions. Working within the Community Integrated Mental Health Service (CIMHS), the team offered practical and emotional support that helped people build confidence, connect with services, and feel less isolated.

Our work is trauma-informed, culturally responsive, and rooted in long-term relationship-building. Through trusted partnerships with NHS providers and community organisations, we ensure no one faces their challenges alone.

Expanded Support and Approach

- Weekly joint case allocation meetings between cross-borough teams for targeted matching
- Development of user-led group activities based on staff interests and skills
- Regular reflection and supervision to support staff wellbeing and learning

Real Stories, Real Change

- *Ms. A* faced multiple safeguarding risks, including domestic violence. Our team coordinated safeguarding referrals and helped her access crisis support and safe housing.
- *Paul*, recently bereaved, was supported with benefits access, home essentials and social reconnection through a men's wellbeing group.
- *ZL* was supported in accessing a Personal Health Budget to complete a qualification in Personal Training, progressing toward his dream career.

"You made me feel like someone actually listened." — Service User

"Now I have a plan and a place to go every week. I'm not just sitting alone anymore." — Paul

D) Fitter Finance: Investing in Health (2024–25)

This programme supports small and minoritised health organisations to build financial resilience. Funded by City Bridge Foundation, our model includes coaching, workshops, and targeted resource-sharing to help grassroots groups navigate the funding landscape.

This Year, We Delivered:

- One-to-one support to 135 individuals across 50 groups
- 57 tailored coaching sessions covering governance, charity registration, bookkeeping and fundraising
- 9 workshops and 7 training sessions on sustainability, policy and impact measurement

Deeper Sector Support

- Co-produced the Newham Community Health Fair, attended by over 90 individuals from 58 organisations
- Relaunched seed grants as AMCT Plus with a stronger emphasis on coaching and follow-up
- Supported 7 groups to register as charities, write their first bids, or open bank accounts

Success Story: Group A Group A, a women-led grassroots initiative, was supported through charity registration, policy development, website launch and grant-readiness. With our guidance, they have launched their first funded programme on women's wellbeing.

"We didn't know where to begin, and now we're applying for funding with confidence." — Group A leader

E) Wellbeing Services (2024–25)

Our wellbeing work focuses on inclusion, cultural responsiveness, and meeting unmet needs. Two standout programmes this year were:

Men's Journaling Series A therapeutic writing and coaching group for Black and Asian men that promoted reflection, growth, and peer connection.

- 90% retention across sessions
- 95% of participants would recommend it to others

"This space let me be honest with myself. I've not had that before."

THRIVE ADHD Pilot A 12-month peer support and psychoeducation programme for Black and Asian women on the NHS ADHD waiting list. Sessions focused on identity, stress management, and wellbeing tools.

- 36 women completed the programme
- 80% reported reduced shame and improved self-esteem
- 100% valued the sense of connection

"I finally feel seen. And more importantly, I've learnt what helps me thrive."

F) Building Hire & Community Access

Our venues supported over 60 grassroots groups delivering vital services such as counselling, ESOL, health screenings, youth work, and peer support.

"Having a stable, welcoming space changes everything for our clients." — Partner

"Friendly staff and flexible bookings make a big difference. We feel part of the place."

G) Volunteering

Volunteering remained a key part of our work, even as we transitioned from long-term community spaces. We supported 40 volunteers across roles in retail, reception, wellbeing and online services. Our flexible model allowed us to support a wide range of people, from students to retirees to those facing barriers to employment.

Highlights

- Tailored coaching for volunteers transitioning into work or training
- Online volunteering roles allowed continuity for those relocating
- Collaborations with schools and referral agencies for supported placements

Stories of Change

- One volunteer, a recent arrival to the UK, used his charity shop experience to build confidence and later secure part-time paid employment.
- Another, managing long-term mental health challenges, found purpose and connection through digital support roles in our wellbeing programmes.

"Although the shop closed, I'm now helping with events. It keeps me learning."

"This was my first real experience of work. I felt trusted and supported."

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The statement of financial activities shows a net deficit for the year of £69,124 (2024: £66,880). Income increased by 8.4% in the year to £1,758,886. Total expenditure also increased by 8.2% to £1,828,010 compared with prior year: £1,689,603.

Other than bank deposits the charity does not hold financial investments.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees review on a quarterly basis the charity's development and operational plans, future funding needs and its overall resilience and financial stability in light of its ability to meet its charitable objectives for the foreseeable future (usually a period upto 3 years).

Trustees consider the need to ensure viability of the charity beyond the immediate future, absorb setbacks and be able to take advantage of opportunities and new initiatives.

In recent years, A-M's Board of Trustees made a strategic decision to adopt a "zero level" reserves policy. The Trustees recognised that unrestricted reserves would be used strategically, not simply held. The zero-reserves policy allowed us to focus on transformational change, with the understanding that it would be backed by appropriate oversight, planning, and long-term support structures. As significant capital works (Aston Mansfield Community Centre) have been largely completed and the Forest Gate (Durning Hall) site disposed, the Board of Trustees will consider the relevance of the zero reserves policy going forward.

As discussed in the Trustees' Report, Aston Mansfield Charitable Trust ("AMCT") a sister charity (see Note 19 to the Accounts) has provided the charity with an annual grant to support its work on strategic development, marketing and communications, fundraising, financial management and volunteer development.

We continue to rely on and actively pursue grants, contracts, and earned income to fund the day-to-day delivery of our charitable programmes. The presence of a supportive base, provided by AMCT, allows us to plan ahead with confidence, but fundraising remains absolutely essential to the delivery and scaling of our work.

The charity's reserve position as at 31 March 2025 is disclosed in Note 18 to the Accounts. At 31 March 2025 the charity held total funds of £1,531,358 (2024 - £1,600,482) of which £ 1,366,389 (2024 - £1,393,398) represents the Endowment Fund, Restricted Fund £99,668 (2024 - £92,439) and Unrestricted Fund £65,301 (2024 - £114,645).

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

As we look to the future, Aston-Mansfield is entering a new chapter with renewed leadership, refreshed governance, and ambitious plans to deepen our impact across Newham.

In July 2025, we welcomed a new permanent Chief Executive Officer. This appointment marks the end of a short period of interim leadership and brings long-term stability and vision to our organisation. With the arrival of our new CEO, we are confident that Aston-Mansfield will be well-positioned to grow and adapt to the evolving needs of the communities we serve.

Our Board of Trustees has also seen positive changes, with the recent recruitment of two dynamic Young Trustees who bring fresh perspectives and lived experience. While our governance is now more balanced and reflective of the community, we recognise the need to continue strengthening the Board and may look to recruit additional members in the coming year to ensure we have the right mix of skills, diversity, and strategic oversight.

We remain firmly committed to expanding our service provision across all age groups — from children and young people to adults — by developing new projects and enhancing existing ones. Our focus will be on responsive, inclusive services that support local people to thrive.

Partnership remains at the heart of our approach. We will take a more active and strategic role in One Newham and other local collaborations to ensure we are contributing meaningfully to borough-wide efforts. By strengthening our partnership work, we aim to amplify our voice, share resources, and increase the collective impact of the voluntary and community sector.

We intend to strengthen our relationship with our partner organisation, Lambourne End, a charity that reconnects over 12,000 people each year with nature through outdoor learning, adventure, and farm-based experiences. Lambourne End delivers its impactful programmes on land we own, and we are continually inspired by the scale and quality of their work. Over the coming period, we aim to formalise our partnership further, supporting shared objectives and deepening the long-term impact of our collaboration"

Finally, we have exciting plans to refurbish our community centre, transforming it into a vibrant, accessible community hub. This redevelopment will not only improve the space for service delivery but also increase opportunities for local organisations to rent space and connect with residents. By investing in our infrastructure, we are investing in the long-term sustainability and relevance of Aston-Mansfield as a trusted community anchor.

Together, these developments mark a period of renewal and opportunity. With strong leadership, clear priorities, and deep local roots, we are ready to take bold steps forward in 2025 and beyond.

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Aston-Mansfield is a registered charity (number 220085) and a company limited by guarantee (number 48350). The charity is governed by its Articles of Association. These were revised in the light of current legislation and adopted by the members on 14 April 2010.

We have between 7 and 15 trustees at any one time, two of whom are appointed by Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust. We aim to have a Board whose skills and diversity mix fit with Aston-Mansfield's strategic direction, core activities and regulatory requirements. Trustees are appointed through an open recruitment process, which includes an interview with the Chair, and at least one other Trustee, followed by confirmation by the Board.

There is an induction process for new trustees which includes an induction pack, introductory sessions with the Chief Executive and management team, and project visits. New trustees are supported by more experienced trustees through a 'buddying' system.

The trustees meet at least six times a year. Trustees are updated on significant regulatory and sector developments, and participate in training on core issues, for example safeguarding.

The day to day management of the charity is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer who consults regularly with the Chairman and reports to the trustees at each of their meetings.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The trustees continue to operate a robust risk management strategy, which includes:

- An annual review of the principal risks and uncertainties facing the charity, considering strategic priorities, critical dependencies, and key performance indicators.
 - The establishment and review of policies, systems, and procedures to mitigate risks across all areas of operation.
 - Strategic and operational planning aligned to an annual budget, with regular monitoring of delivery and performance.
 - The implementation of appropriate controls and contingency measures to manage the potential impact of risks should they arise.
-

With the successful sale of Durning Hall, the charity has resolved several significant risks previously identified — including those relating to redevelopment delays and reputational issues.

The current major risks identified by the trustees include:

- Long-term financial sustainability, particularly in the context of a volatile economic environment. We are actively working to reduce our reliance on funding from our sister charity, Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust (AMCT), to ensure greater financial independence and resilience.
 - Maximising income and utilisation of the Aston-Mansfield Community Centre, including the delivery of expected returns from the development of the GP/Primary Care Centre.
 - Operational risks, such as a major fire, flood, or other building-related incident.
 - Capacity and resilience of the management team and staff, given the ongoing pressures of service delivery and organisational change.
 - Governance risks, including maintaining a Board with the appropriate skills, experience, and diversity to guide the organisation effectively.
-

In addition, the global context presents emerging risks. With multiple active conflicts around the world and growing geopolitical instability, many of our beneficiaries, particularly those from refugee, migrant, and diaspora communities, may be directly or indirectly affected. These global tensions also contribute to broader financial and market volatility, which may impact both our investments and the funding landscape.

The Trustees are closely monitoring these developments and continue to take action to mitigate risk wherever possible, including investing in staff wellbeing, strengthening internal systems, and pursuing new income generation opportunities. There is an active risk register which is held by the CEO and reviewed by the Board on an annual basis.

On this basis, the Trustees are satisfied that all material risks are being actively managed, and that Aston-Mansfield remains in a stable position with adequate resources to continue its work in the foreseeable future.

PAY POLICY FOR SENIOR STAFF

The directors consider that the Board of Directors, who are the charity's trustees, and the Chief Executive Officer comprise the key management personnel of the charity, in charge of directing and controlling, running, and operating the charity on a day to day basis. All trustees give of their time freely, and no trustee received remuneration in the year. Details of trustees' expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in note 13 and note 19 of the accounts.

The pay of the Chief Executive is reviewed by the trustees annually, and a Remuneration Committee, whose role includes setting the remuneration of the Chief Executive, was established in July 2018. Any increase is based on benchmarking against pay levels in other comparator charities, and performance against agreed objectives.

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 17 of The Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission in determining the activities undertaken by the charity.

The charity's charitable purpose is detailed in its objects, which are to develop, for the public benefit, the community wealth of East London and promote a diverse and inclusive society in which all are free to participate.

Delivery of public benefit is achieved through direct provision of services through the charity's work with children, young people, and families and through the use of its community buildings. The charity is actively engaged in working in partnership with other voluntary sector organisations, and the local authority to ensure an enhanced quality of life to members of the community.

FUNDRAISING PRACTICE AND PERFORMANCE

Aston-Mansfield's fundraising is largely focused on raising funds from Trusts and Foundations and earning income from the public through charity shop sales. The main source of income raised from the public has been trading activity through the charity shop which closed in November 2024. Hence, the charity is not signed up to any voluntary fundraising regulation. Aston-Mansfield staff and volunteers undertake all fundraising activity, and there have been no complaints received by Aston-Mansfield about its fundraising activities (2024: No complaints).

SISTER CHARITY

Aston-Mansfield has a sister charity, Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust (AMCT) to which Aston-Mansfield is connected. The two charities have similar objects, which encompass supporting and developing disadvantaged communities in East London.

Aston-Mansfield achieves its impact through the direct provision of services to children and young people and families, and through renting space in the community buildings to other groups and organisations in the not for profit sector. Additionally, it provides resources, expertise and training to other groups and organisations in the not for profit sector, thus enabling those organisations to deliver their services to their clients and communities.

The two charities are separate organisations, each with their own Charity Commission registration numbers, governance arrangements and financial management processes and procedures. The Aston-Mansfield Board currently has 9 Trustees, 4 of whom are Trustees of AMCT. The AMCT Board currently has 8 Trustees, 4 of whom are not a Trustee of Aston-Mansfield. We believe this balance of shared knowledge and independence is beneficial for both organisations. Board meetings are held and minuted separately. It should be noted that Aston-Mansfield prepares and reports on completely separate Accounts with its own reserves and a clear Reserves Policy.

As Aston-Mansfield's work meets AMCT's funding criteria, the charity applies to AMCT for a grant on an annual basis. The size of the grant awarded depends on several factors including the level of disposable income available to AMCT, the performance of Aston-Mansfield in the previous year and its needs in respect of its work on strategic development, marketing and communications, fundraising, financial management and volunteer development. AMCT has supported AM's additional operational costs incurred through COVID and while the property portfolio was rationalised. Aston-Mansfield reports regularly on its performance to AMCT. AMCT also awards grants to other charities, through an open application process, based on defined priorities and funding criteria.

The charity remains grateful to AMCT for its generosity in this matter, but recognises this arrangement is dependent on several factors, not least the current economic climate and property markets, and current support is no guarantee of future support. Aston-Mansfield acts as the managing agent for several AMCT's properties, and this enables Aston-Mansfield to spend more of its voluntary income on direct work with its beneficiary groups.

Whilst Aston-Mansfield is extremely grateful to AMCT for the continued support of its work, the Trustees recognise this support is agreed on an annual basis and can never be guaranteed. Aston-Mansfield is therefore continually seeking new sources of voluntary income to guarantee the future of its services.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of the Aston Mansfield for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time of the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as we are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

In preparing the Trustees Report, the Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption available to small companies and have not prepared a strategic report.

Approved by the Board on 16 September 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

A Whiteford

A Whiteford
Chair

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Aston-Mansfield for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of the charitable company's net movement in funds, including the income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report (which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report (which incorporates the directors' report).

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the charitable company; or
- the charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 17, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Based on our understanding of the charitable company and the environment in which it operates, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to regulatory requirements charities and companies in England and Wales, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, income tax and payroll tax.

We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls), and determined that the principal risks were related to posting inappropriate journal entries to revenue and management bias in accounting estimate and application of controls around authorisation of expenditure and payments. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Inspecting correspondence with regulators and tax authorities;
- Discussions with management including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulation and fraud;
- Evaluating management's controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities;
- Identifying and testing journals, in particular journal entries postings by unusual users or with unusual descriptions; and
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their critical accounting estimates.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ASTON-MANSFIELD

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Jane Askew
Senior Statutory Auditor
for and on behalf of HaysMac LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
Date: 25 September 2025

10 Queen Street Place
London
EC4R 1AG

ASTON-MANSFIELD

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

		Endowment Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Income	Notes					
Income from donations and legacies						
Donations		-	-	25	25	130
Income from charitable activities						
Grants	3	-	267,584	1,041,598	1,309,182	1,050,529
Project income		-	-	570	570	638
Rents and facility hire	4	-	-	400,312	400,312	500,948
Income from other trading activities						
Shop sales		-	-	26,420	26,420	47,063
Other income	5	-	-	22,377	22,377	23,415
Total income		-	267,584	1,491,302	1,758,886	1,622,723
Expenditure						
Expenditure on raising funds						
Fundraising		-	-	(66,294)	(66,294)	(90,625)
Shop operating costs		-	-	(74,791)	(74,791)	(46,278)
Expenditure on charitable activities						
Lifelong learning		-	(124,640)	(290,226)	(414,866)	(366,333)
Healthy living		-	(89,827)	(83,054)	(172,881)	(135,840)
Community development		-	(45,888)	(34,684)	(80,572)	(39,771)
Community buildings		(27,009)	-	(991,597)	(1,018,606)	(1,010,756)
Total expenditure	6	(27,009)	(260,355)	(1,540,646)	(1,828,010)	(1,689,603)
Net income/(expenditure)		(27,009)	7,229	(49,344)	(69,124)	(66,880)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(27,009)	7,229	(49,344)	(69,124)	(66,880)
Fund balances as at 1 April 2024		1,393,398	92,439	114,645	1,600,482	1,667,362
FUND BALANCES AT 31 MARCH 2025		<u>£1,366,389</u>	<u>£99,668</u>	<u>£65,301</u>	<u>£1,531,358</u>	<u>£1,600,482</u>

There were no recognised gains and losses other than those stated above.

No separate Summary Income and Expenditure Account has been produced as this statement incorporates all Income and Expenditure. Net income for the purposes of Companies Act 2006 excludes income and expenditure in respect of endowment funds.

Excluding movements on endowment funds, net deficit for the year was £42,115 (2024: net deficit £39,871).

A full comparative Statement of Financial Activities is included at note 22.

The notes on pages 24 to 38 form part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET

AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025	2024
		£	£
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	9	1,563,838	1,591,652
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	10	55,165	66,803
Cash at bank and in hand		101,958	105,120
		157,123	171,923
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	11	(189,603)	(163,093)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		(32,480)	8,830
NET ASSETS		<u>£1,531,358</u>	<u>£1,600,482</u>
Funds:			
Endowment Fund	15	1,366,389	1,393,398
Restricted Fund	16,20	99,668	92,439
Unrestricted Fund	17	65,301	114,645
TOTAL NET ASSETS AT 31 MARCH 2025	18	<u>£1,531,358</u>	<u>£1,600,482</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by Board of the Trustees on 16 September 2025 and were signed below on its behalf by:

AWhiteford

Amanda Whiteford
Chair

T Munjayi

Tendai Munjayi
Treasurer

The notes on pages 24 to 38 form part of these financial statements.

ASTON-MANSFIELD

CASHFLOW STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
CASH USED/GENERATED IN OPERATING ACTIVITIES	12	(3,162)	(28,177)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	9	-	(2,322)
(DECREASE)/INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS IN THE YEAR		(3,162)	(30,499)
<i>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</i>			
Cash balances at 1 April 2024		105,120	135,619
CASH BALANCES AT 31 MARCH 2025		£101,958	£105,120

The notes on pages 24 to 38 form part of these financial statements.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

Accounting Basis

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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) (second edition, effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Aston-Mansfield meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s). These financial statements have been drawn up in the historical accounting basis, except that certain freehold properties are carried at valuation.

The financial statements incorporate the assets and liabilities of The Lady Trower Trust (Registered Charity number 303172) under a charity commission scheme dated 1994.

The accounts are prepared in pounds sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

Preparation of accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees consider there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The review of our financial position, reserves levels and future plans gives Trustees confidence the charity remains a going concern for the foreseeable future.

In reaching this conclusion, the trustees have reviewed cash flow forecasts covering a period of more than one year from the date of approval of these accounts.

Critical accounting judgements and estimates

In preparing these financial statements, management has made judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of the charities accounting policies and the reported assets, liabilities, income and expenditure and the disclosures made in the financial statements. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. No significant estimates, judgements or assumptions have been applied in the preparation of these financial statements.

Income recognition

Income from shop sales, rents and facility hire and management consultancy fees are accounted for when receivable. Grants are accounted for when the charity becomes entitled to the funding and donations are accounted for when received.

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that 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.

Direct costs, including directly attributable salaries, are allocated on an actual basis to the relevant areas of programme activity. Overheads and other salaries are allocated between expense headings on the basis of time spent.

Support costs which include central office administration are allocated across the categories of cost of raising funds', charitable activities and governance costs. The basis of allocation is set out in note 7 c). Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements relating to the general running of the charity, including costs of strategic planning for the longer term development of the charity.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost in the statement of financial activity.

Fixed Assets

Buildings are depreciated at a rate of 2% per annum.

Other assets are depreciated, in equal annual instalments, over their economic lives at the following rates:

Electronic equipment	25%
Furniture and other equipment	15%
Motor vehicles	25%
AMCC Adventure Playground	10%

Assets costing more than £500 are capitalised.

Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments, including trade and other debtors and creditors are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost, on a first-in-first-out basis, and net realisable value.

Operating leases

Rentals payable are charged on a time basis over the term of the lease.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Foreign currency translation

The charities functional and presentation currency is pound sterling. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. All differences are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Employee benefits

- Short term benefits
Short term benefits including holiday pay are recognised as an expense in the period in which the service is received.
- Employee termination benefits
Termination benefits are accounted for on an accrual basis and in line with FRS 102.
- Pension scheme
Aston-Mansfield operates a defined contribution pension scheme for the benefit of its employees. The assets of the scheme are held independently from those of Aston-Mansfield in an independently administered fund. The pensions costs charged in the financial statements represent the contributions payable during the year.

Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are:

- **Unrestricted funds**

These are general funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

- **ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

- **Restricted funds**

These are funds subject to specific trusts generally declared by the donor or funds raised for a specific purpose.

- **Endowment funds**

These are permanent funds and must be held indefinitely consisting of two sites of land and property. They are not expendable. However, one of the endowed assets may be changed, for instance the proceeds arising from the sale of the property might be invested in other suitable forms of endowed investment or in the other endowed property. These funds arise from the amalgamation of The Lady Trower Trust with those of the charity in 1994.

Taxation

The charity's activities are exempt from income tax and corporation tax. The charity is registered for Value Added Tax. Certain of the charity's activities are exempt or non-business activities for Value Added Tax purposes and consequently the charity is unable to reclaim all the Value Added Tax it incurs on its purchases. Expenditure in these financial statements is therefore shown inclusive of Value Added Tax suffered.

LEGAL STATUS

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of a winding up is limited to £0.50.

3. INCOME FROM GRANTS	2025 £	2024 £
Grant income classified within income from charitable activities		
Aston Mansfield Charitable Trust	1,041,158	848,885
Local government	-	26,900
Other statutory bodies	84,472	-
Corporate bodies	181,752	172,944
Trusts and Livery companies	1,800	1,800
	<u>£1,309,182</u>	<u>£1,050,529</u>

Income attributable to fundraising efforts is £267,584 (2024: £201,644).

4. RENTS AND SIMILAR INCOME	2025 £	2024 £
Property rental income	362,310	462,876
Wayleave income	37,982	37,982
Facility hire	20	90
	<u>£400,312</u>	<u>£500,948</u>

5.	OTHER INCOME	2025 £	2024 £
	Cost recoveries	19,920	18,586
	Sundries	2,457	4,829
		<u>£22,377</u>	<u>£23,415</u>

6.	EXPENDITURE	Staff Costs £	Support Costs £	Other direct Costs £	Total 2025 £
a)	Analysis of total expenditure				
	Cost of raising funds				
	Fundraising	50,671	15,623	-	66,294
	Shop operating costs	60,767	14,024	-	74,791
		<u>111,438</u>	<u>29,647</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>141,085</u>
	Charitable activities				
	Unrestricted funds				
	Lifelong learning	160,209	91,085	38,932	290,226
	Healthy Living	68,194	14,706	154	83,054
	Community development	23,260	11,376	48	34,684
	Community buildings	503,904	487,693	-	991,597
		<u>755,567</u>	<u>604,860</u>	<u>39,134</u>	<u>1,399,561</u>
	Restricted funds				
	Lifelong learning	99,291	7,958	17,391	124,640
	Healthy Living	80,846	5,215	3,766	89,827
	Community development	20,057	3,120	22,711	45,888
	Community buildings	-	-	-	-
		<u>200,194</u>	<u>16,293</u>	<u>43,868</u>	<u>260,355</u>
	Endowment Funds				
	Community buildings	-	27,009	-	27,009
		<u>-</u>	<u>27,009</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,009</u>
	Total expenditure 2025	<u>£1,067,199</u>	<u>£677,809</u>	<u>£83,002</u>	<u>£1,828,010</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

6. EXPENDITURE (continued)						Direct Costs £	Central Services £	Total 2025 £
b) Analysis of staff costs								
Cost of raising funds								
Fundraising						50,671	-	50,671
Shop operating costs						60,767	-	60,767
Charitable activities								
Unrestricted funds								
Lifelong learning						111,816	48,393	160,209
Healthy living						40,708	27,486	68,194
Community development						8,224	15,036	23,260
Community buildings						373,459	130,445	503,904
Central services						221,360	(221,360)	-
Restricted funds								
Lifelong learning						99,291	-	99,291
Healthy living						80,846	-	80,846
Community development						20,057	-	20,057
Endowment fund								
Community buildings						-	-	-
Total staff costs 2025						<u>£1,067,199</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>£1,067,199</u>
Total staff costs 2024						<u>£976,419</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£976,419</u>
c) Analysis of support costs								
	Admin Costs £	Property Costs £	Travel Costs £	Finance Costs £	Depreciation £	Governance £	Central Services £	Total 2025 £
Cost of raising funds								
Fundraising	14,240	-	-	1,383	-	-	-	15,623
Shop operating costs	2,299	10,340	-	800	-	585	-	14,024
Charitable activities								
Unrestricted funds								
Lifelong learning	11,324	-	-	7,181	-	48,831	23,749	91,085
Healthy living	438	-	-	779	-	-	13,489	14,706
Community development	2,960	-	-	1,038	-	-	7,378	11,376
Community buildings	21,855	322,545	3,440	56,983	-	18,855	64,015	487,693
Central services	14,693	150	-	11,245	805	81,738	(108,631)	-
Restricted funds								
Lifelong learning	-	-	-	-	-	7,958	-	7,958
Healthy living	4,487	678	-	-	-	50	-	5,215
Community development	3,120	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,120
Community buildings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Endowment fund								
Community buildings	-	-	-	-	27,009	-	-	27,009
Total support costs 2025	<u>£75,416</u>	<u>£333,713</u>	<u>£3,440</u>	<u>£79,409</u>	<u>£27,814</u>	<u>£158,017</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£677,809</u>

Central services staff costs and support costs are allocated to each of the programmes dependent on the volume of activity.

6. EXPENDITURE (continued)	2025 £	2024 £
d) Analysis of governance costs		
Legal, consultancy and professional fees	128,532	73,480
Audit fees	23,575	20,175
Health and safety	5,876	1,667
Companies House	34	13
	<u>£158,017</u>	<u>£95,335</u>

	Staff Costs £	Support Costs £	Other direct Costs £	Total 2024 £
e) Analysis of total expenditure – prior year				
Cost of raising funds				
Fundraising	78,216	12,409	-	90,625
Shop operating costs	38,333	7,945	-	46,278
	<u>116,549</u>	<u>20,354</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>136,903</u>
Charitable activities				
Unrestricted funds				
Lifelong learning	204,894	92,331	42,856	340,081
Healthy living	26,058	7,712	444	34,214
Community development	11,727	4,281	-	16,008
Community buildings	494,638	489,109	-	983,747
	<u>737,317</u>	<u>593,433</u>	<u>43,300</u>	<u>1,374,050</u>
Restricted funds				
Lifelong learning	12,939	690	12,623	26,252
Healthy living	97,684	1,819	2,123	101,626
Community development	11,930	1,023	10,810	23,763
Community buildings	-	-	-	-
	<u>122,553</u>	<u>3,532</u>	<u>25,556</u>	<u>151,641</u>
Endowment Funds				
Community buildings	-	27,009	-	27,009
	<u>-</u>	<u>27,009</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,009</u>
Total expenditure 2024	<u>£976,419</u>	<u>£644,328</u>	<u>£68,856</u>	<u>£1,689,603</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

6. EXPENDITURE (continued)						Direct Costs £	Head Office £	Total 2024 £					
f) Analysis of staff costs – prior year													
Cost of raising funds													
Fundraising						78,216	-	78,216					
Shop operating costs						38,333	-	38,333					
Charitable activities													
Unrestricted funds													
Lifelong learning						164,420	40,474	204,894					
Healthy living						233	25,825	26,058					
Community development						21	11,706	11,727					
Community buildings						315,114	179,524	494,638					
Central services						257,529	(257,529)	-					
Restricted funds													
Lifelong learning						12,939	-	12,939					
Healthy living						97,684	-	97,684					
Community development						11,930	-	11,930					
Total staff costs 2024						£976,419	£-	£976,419					
Total staff costs 2023						£1,050,034	£-	£1,050,034					
g) Analysis of support costs - prior year													
	Admin Costs £	Property Costs £	Travel Costs £	Finance Costs £	Depreciation £	Governance £	Head Office £	Total 2024 £					
Cost of raising funds													
Fundraising	11,113	-	-	1,296	-	-	-	12,409					
Shop operating costs	848	7,076	21	-	-	-	-	7,945					
Charitable activities													
Unrestricted funds													
Lifelong learning	21,273	-	-	8,937	-	52,161	9,960	92,331					
Healthy living	-	-	-	1,268	-	91	6,353	7,712					
Community development	934	-	-	466	-	-	2,881	4,281					
Community buildings	38,651	344,148	5,819	50,286	650	5,380	44,175	489,109					
Central services	12,918	-	-	12,837	-	37,614	(63,369)	-					
Restricted funds													
Lifelong learning	30	660	-	-	-	-	-	690					
Healthy living	25	1,861	-	(156)	-	89	-	1,819					
Community development	1,023	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,023					
Community buildings													
Endowment fund													
Community buildings	-	-	-	-	27,009	-	-	27,009					
Total support costs 2024						£86,815	£353,745	£5,840	£74,934	£27,659	£95,335	-	£644,328

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

7. NET INCOME	2025 £	2024 £
Net income is stated after charging:		
Professional advice insurance including trustee indemnity cover	1,840	1,752
Depreciation	27,814	27,659
Audit fees	23,575	20,175
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

8. STAFF EMPLOYMENT	2025 £	2024 £
Salaries and wages	864,494	821,820
Social security costs	70,181	69,980
Pension costs	63,453	62,926
Other staff costs	24,722	21,693
Redundancy payments	44,349	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total Staff Costs	£1,067,199	£976,419
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

No employee received remuneration for the year in the band £60,000 to £70,000 (2024 – 1) and no pension costs (2024 – £32,516), were paid in relation to this employee.

The average monthly number of employees during the year was made up as follows:

	2025		2024	
	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time
Community work	20	7	27	8
Central Administration	-	5	-	5
Fundraising	-	2	-	2
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	20	14	27	15
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Full time equivalents	2025	2024
The number of full time equivalent posts is	31.01	32.08
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £79,668 (2024: £96,158).

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	Land and Buildings £	Furniture and Equipment £	Motor Vehicles £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 April 2024	2,155,448	1,002,513	51,453	3,209,414
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	(974,268)	(16,980)	(991,248)
At 31 March 2025	2,155,448	28,245	34,473	2,218,166
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2024	566,477	999,834	51,451	1,617,762
Charge for year	27,009	805	-	27,814
Disposals	-	(974,268)	(16,980)	(991,248)
At 31 March 2025	593,486	26,371	34,471	654,328
Net Book Value				
At 31 March 2025	£1,561,962	£1,874	£2	£1,563,838
At 31 March 2024	£1,588,971	£2,679	£2	£1,591,652

All assets are used for charitable purposes.

10. DEBTORS	2025 £	2024 £
Rent Receivable	46,847	52,687
Other debtors and prepayments	8,318	14,116
	£55,165	£66,803
11. CREDITORS: due within one year	2025 £	2024 £
Aston Mansfield Charitable Trust	16,672	2,056
Deferred income	71,756	49,231
Taxation and social security	11,449	25,892
VAT payable	847	525
Other creditors and accruals	88,879	85,389
	£189,603	£163,093

12. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH (OUTFLOW)/INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	2025 £	2024 £
Net movement in funds	(69,124)	(66,880)
Depreciation and amortisation	27,814	27,659
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	26,510	(26,274)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	11,638	37,318
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operations	(£3,162)	(£28,177)

13. DIRECTORS/TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION

No director has received any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses (2024: Nil).

14. CHARITY COMMISSION SCHEME

Under a scheme approved by the Charity Commissioners in 1994, the Golden Jubilee Trust merged with Aston-Mansfield and Aston-Mansfield also became the corporate trustee of the Lady Trower Trust, which is the proprietor of the land at Lambourne End and Burges Road, East Ham. Their accounts are merged with those of this charity with effect from 1 October 1993.

15.	ENDOWMENT FUNDS	Movement in funds				
		Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
	Land					
	Burges Road East Ham E6	180,000	-	-	-	180,000
	Lambourne End	1,213,398	-	(27,009)	-	1,186,389
		<u>£1,393,398</u>	<u></u>	<u>(£27,009)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>£1,366,389</u>
		<u><u></u></u>	<u><u></u></u>	<u><u></u></u>	<u><u></u></u>	<u><u></u></u>
		Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
	Land	180,000	-	-	-	180,000
	Burges Road East Ham E6	1,240,407	-	(27,009)	-	1,213,398
	Lambourne End	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
		£1,420,407	-	(£27,009)	-	£1,393,398
		<u><u></u></u>	<u><u></u></u>	<u><u></u></u>	<u><u></u></u>	<u><u></u></u>

Expenditure reflects depreciation of the Lambourne End Property.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

16. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Lambourne End – Lake	2,979	-	-	-	2,979
East End Community Foundation	1,500	-	(1,500)	-	-
City Bridge Trust	19,296	64,268	(56,318)	-	27,246
Legacy Income	13,775	-	(1,625)	-	12,150
Compass - ADHD Support	16,672	-	(15,172)	-	1,500
LB Newham	4,749	-	(4,749)	-	-
Partners for Health	2,737	-	(2,737)	-	-
Jack Petchey	1,200	1,800	(1,200)	-	1,800
Community Connectors	24,989	117,484	(113,022)	-	29,451
Community Connectors-NHS Narrative Therapy	2,802	-	-	-	2,802
Community Connectors-NHS BAME Men's Project	1,740	-	-	-	1,740
Million Hours Fund	-	64,032	(64,032)	-	-
Awards for All	-	20,000	-	-	20,000
	<u>£92,439</u>	<u>£267,584</u>	<u>(£260,355)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>£99,668</u>
	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Lambourne End – Lake	2,979	-	-	-	2,979
East End Community Foundation	3,500	9,659	(11,659)	-	1,500
City Bridge Trust	-	42,469	(23,173)	-	19,296
Legacy Income	14,365	-	(590)	-	13,775
Compass - ADHD Support	-	16,672	-	-	16,672
LB Newham	5,000	-	(251)	-	4,749
Partners for Health	-	5,000	(2,263)	-	2,737
Jack Petchey	6,967	1,200	(6,967)	-	1,200
Community Connectors	37,125	94,342	(106,478)	-	24,989
Community Connectors-NHS Narrative Therapy	-	2,802	-	-	2,802
Community Connectors-NHS BAME Men's Project	-	2,000	(260)	-	1,740
	<u>£69,936</u>	<u>£174,144</u>	<u>(£151,641)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>£92,439</u>

A full description of each fund is shown at note 20.

17. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
General Fund	114,645	1,491,302	(1,540,646)	-	65,301
	<u>£114,645</u>	<u>£1,491,302</u>	<u>(£1,540,646)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>£65,301</u>

17. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS (continued)

	Balance at 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	177,019	1,448,579	(1,510,953)	-	114,645
	<u>£114,645</u>	<u>£1,448,579</u>	<u>(£1,510,953)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>£114,645</u>

18. NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

Current year

	Endowment Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Unrestricted Fund £	Total 2025 £
Fixed Assets	1,561,963	-	1,875	1,563,838
Current Assets	-	99,668	57,455	157,123
Current Liabilities	(144,672)	-	(44,931)	(189,603)
Inter-fund Loan	(50,902)	-	50,902	-
Net Funds	<u>£1,366,389</u>	<u>£99,668</u>	<u>£65,301</u>	<u>£1,531,358</u>

Previous year

	Endowment Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Unrestricted Fund £	Total 2024 £
Fixed Assets	1,588,972	-	2,680	1,591,652
Current Assets	-	92,439	79,484	171,923
Current Liabilities	(144,672)	-	(18,421)	(163,093)
Inter-fund Loan	(50,902)	-	50,902	-
Net Funds	<u>£1,393,398</u>	<u>£92,439</u>	<u>£114,645</u>	<u>£1,600,482</u>

19. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions with individuals or trustees during the year (2024- nil).

Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee, although under the control of a different trustee board, is a connected charity with identical objects and having a common administration.

19. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (continued)

During the year the company received grants of £1,041,158 (2024- £848,885) from Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust and provided services costing £17,238 (2024 - £16,417) to that charity. At the year-end Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust was owed £16,672 by Aston Mansfield (2024 - £2,056) as disclosed in notes 10 and 11.

The company is a member of Lambourne End Limited, a charitable company limited by guarantee. During the year the company did not provide any services to the charity (2024 - £ Nil) and no amount was owed to or due from Aston-Mansfield (2024 - £Nil).

20. RESTRICTED FUNDS**Lambourne End Lake**

In 2007 the Environment Agency provided a grant towards the capital cost of providing a lake at Lambourne End. These funds would be utilised once the planning permission is granted and construction work commences on the lake.

East End Community Foundation

A seven- week programme of positive activities for young people during the summer holidays and October half term including targeted sessions for transitional youth and youth at risk of anti-social behaviour. The funding was provided by East End Community Foundation.

City Bridge Trust

Fitter Finances is a four-year program (2023-2027) funded by The City Bridge Foundation and delivered by Aston-Mansfield.

The grant goes towards two part-time workers delivering Aston Mansfield's Fitter Finance programme addressing the financial capability of voluntary and community sector organisations in Newham.

The program aims to enhance the financial stability and sustainability of grassroots organisations dedicated to promoting health and well-being an innovative initiative that strives to uplift and strengthen small charities, community groups and non-profits in London, particularly emphasising those working tirelessly to enhance health and well-being. The project aims to offer valuable support and resources to promote long-term sustainability.

Legacy

An amount of £19k was received with a request for it to be contributed towards a farm project. This income has been restricted to Aston-Mansfield's activities and expenditures at Lambourne End and other Healthy eating/living initiatives.

Compass-ADHD Support

The programme is funded by Compass Wellbeing CIC. The Thrive Project is a 12-month programme for Black and Asian women living in Newham awaiting or have received ADHD diagnosis and treatment via the NHS. The programme provides peer support, three months of one-to-one and one month of group coaching as well as six monthly events and talks to enable the women to understand, accept and thrive whilst living with ADHD.

Community Connectors

The Community Connectors programme is funded through a partnership between Community Links, Aston Mansfield, Mind in Tower Hamlets and Newham, and the NHS East London Foundation Trust (ELFT).

Aston-Mansfield Community Connectors work with service users referred into the program most have a serious mental illness. We continue to develop strong relationships with multi-disciplinary teams (MDTs) who work with primary care networks or PCNs (clusters of GP practices) across Newham. These MDTs are organised into two Community Integrated Mental Health Services (CIMHS) teams, linked to PCNs within Newham. Community Connectors help to identify themes and emerging need, develop further support pathways for service users, and be an important link between local experts and local assets.

Community Connectors work with ELFT as part of the Community Mental Health Transformation Programme. The ethos of the programme is recovery-focused, exploring needs through complexity (rather than diagnosis), a focus on a person's strengths and assets, and the wider determinants of health and wellbeing. We continue to promote this work with an emphasis on ensuring strong awareness/publicity of the value that the role and programme brings to the Mental Health Transformation programme and the people it serves.

20. RESTRICTED FUNDS (continued)**Community Connectors - NHS: Narrative Therapy**

The Narrative Therapy Creative Writing Project is a wellbeing project aimed at Black women to utilising narrative therapy and creative writing to document their experience and build resilience. The project allows the women to bond over their writing and lived experiences. The four-week project allows the women to creatively write and reshape their personal narratives. The women receive training and materials to facilitate their writing.

Community Connectors - NHS BAME Men's Project

The project is aimed at adult males in Newham currently receiving support from the community connectors programme. This is a peer support project enabling the men to come together over several weeks to participate in group discussions and art projects.

London Borough of Newham (LBN)

Previously LBN provided £10K towards weight management. Every 6-8 weeks young people referrals receive fresh food boxes and recipe cards for cooking with families at home playworkers will also give fun active support to introduce Healthy eating and cooking habits that influence families' behaviours. Young people are then asked to give feedback and send in videos photos of achievements examples of where they have shopped and cooked a healthy meal on a budget.

Partners for Health

The grant was provided by London Catalyst and Hospital Saturday Fund to improve mental health and wellbeing of 50 Black and Asian men and women using positive psychology and therapeutic and expressive writing interventions. Participants included those who use, have used or have never accessed mental health services. Over the 12-month lifespan of the project, we worked with 60 participants in total providing participants with training, their journals, and warm meals to address the cost of living crisis) and sign-posting anyone who needed it for further help and support.

Jack Petchey

We participate in the Achievement Awards with Jack Petchey and receive £1800 per calendar year to spend on what young people want through voting. In previous years, we have spent the Achievement Awards on social activities, dinners, equipment, and training.

Million Hours Fund

We received £80k for 15months' delivery from the National Lottery Foundation and the Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sports as part of their initiative to reduce antisocial behaviour in Newham. The programme ends in June 2025.

Awards for All

Our Wellbeing Journalling/Therapeutic Writing is funded by Awards for all. The programme focuses on supporting Black and Asian men and women to improve their mental health and wellbeing through writing. To address the cost of living crisis we also provide participants with hot meals and act as a pathway to other services when the programs come to an end. The funding received in the year will be utilised by December 2025.

21. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES**Lambourne End Limited**

Aston-Mansfield is a member of Lambourne End Limited and in the event of winding-up it has undertaken to contribute an amount not exceeding £25,000.

22. COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024)

		Endowment Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Total £
Income	Notes				
Income from donations and legacies					
Donations		-	-	130	130
Income from charitable activities					
Grants	3	-	174,144	876,385	1,050,529
Project income		-	-	638	638
Rents and facility hire	4	-	-	500,948	500,948
Income from other trading activities					
Shop sales		-	-	47,063	47,063
Other income	5	-	-	23,415	23,415
Total income		-	174,144	1,448,579	1,622,723
Expenditure					
Expenditure on raising funds					
Fundraising		-	-	(90,625)	(90,625)
Shop operating costs		-	-	(46,278)	(46,278)
Expenditure on charitable activities					
Lifelong learning		-	(26,252)	(340,081)	(366,333)
Healthy living		-	(101,626)	(34,214)	(135,840)
Community development		-	(23,763)	(16,008)	(39,771)
Community buildings		(27,009)	-	(983,747)	(1,010,756)
Total expenditure	6	(27,009)	(151,641)	(1,510,953)	(1,689,603)
Net income/(expenditure)		(27,009)	22,503	(62,374)	(66,880)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(27,009)	22,503	(62,374)	(66,880)
Fund balances as at 1 April 2023		1,420,407	69,936	177,019	1,667,362
FUND BALANCES AT 31 MARCH 2024		<u>£1,393,398</u>	<u>£92,439</u>	<u>£114,645</u>	<u>£1,600,482</u>

ASTON - MANSFIELD

England & Wales - Charity number 220085

Accounts

ASTON-MANSFIELD
(A company limited by guarantee)
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Charity Registration Number: 220085

Company Number: 48350

ASTON MANSFIELD

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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ASTON-MANSFIELD

REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Trustees	Christopher C Keen	(Chairman)
	Alex Minford	(Deputy Chairman)
	Tendai Munjayi	(Treasurer)
	Asif Mangera	
	Rev Jeremy Fraser	
	Dr Joanne Beckmann	(Resigned 10 June 2024)
	Mahendra Savjani	
	Mohammad Khan	
	Noor Choudary	
	Rev Paul Regan	(Resigned 15 July 2024)
	Rehan Akhtar	
Chief Executive Officer	Claire Helman	
Secretary	Eileen Da-Silva	
Bankers	National Westminster Bank Plc	Co-operative Bank Plc
	Ground Floor, Gredley House 1-11 Broadway Stratford London E15 4WG	80 Cornhill London EC3V 3NJ
Auditors	Haysmacintyre LLP 10 Queen Street Place London EC4R 1AG	
Solicitors	Russell-Cooke 2 Putney Hill Putney London SW15 6AB	
Registered Office	Durning Hall Earlham Grove Forest Gate London E7 9AB	

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report and the audited financial statements of the organisation for the year ended 31 March 2024 which have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (revised 2019) and the Companies Act 2006.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the charity are to develop the community wealth of East London and promote a diverse and inclusive society in which all are free to participate. These are achieved through several structured programmes and a range of activities supporting people of all ages, creeds, cultures, and abilities, principally within the London Borough of Newham.

The Newham Context

Newham is an economically vulnerable borough with many residents affected by high London costs but low wages. It has a young and ethnically diverse population with many large families who have been affected by the benefits cap. The long term impacts of the Covid pandemic, coupled with the Cost of Living crisis, in a borough already experiencing high rates of poverty, means that life for the people we work with, and for many of our staff and volunteers, is very difficult. Cost of living pressures have tipped people who were just about managing into poverty.

Key statistics for Newham

- Deprivation in Newham is high, with the overall Index of Multiple Deprivation score in 2019 showing Newham as the 3rd most deprived London borough, ranking 12th of 317 local authority districts nationally.
- Over 22,000 children live in absolute poverty, with the highest rate of children in temporary accommodation in the country living in Newham. Most Newham children in "absolute low income households" are members of "working families", meaning one where at least one adult has a job.
- 24.5% of Newham residents' jobs are low paid; the average income per household is £19,465 compared to the London average of £29,362. In 2023, 20% of residents were estimated to be earning below the Living Wage.
- Average rent represents around 65% of average wages in Newham compared to 30% across the UK
-
- Newham has the second highest fuel poverty rate in London and the 21st highest fuel poverty rate nationally
- In 2021, 42.2% of people in Newham identified their ethnic group within the "Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh" category, 30.8% of Newham residents identified their ethnic group within the "White" category while 17.5% identified their ethnic group within the "Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African" category.
- In 2021, 35.3% of people in Newham described themselves as Christian, while 34.8% described themselves as Muslim

In response to this, we have increased our emotional and practical support for families, adapted our food distribution service, grown our work with vulnerable children, young people, and families, and expanded our work on mental health and well-being.

The year in numbers

During the year we have directly delivered services to around 342 children and young people, 68 families, 377 adults with mental health issues, 61 adults wanting to improve their mental wellbeing, and 22 community organisations. In addition, an estimated 5570 people have used our centres for sessional activities run by approximately 82 community groups, and 26 organisations rented office space.

Some 182 children developed socially, physically, and creatively through a range of play experiences at our After School Club, Holiday Playschemes, Breakfast Club, Transitional Youth programme and Cooking Collective. The children and young people benefit from improved life-skills, confidence, and self-awareness, and parents benefit from affordable wrap around childcare allowing them to participate in work, study, or training.

68 families (253 people) used our Little Manor Food Club, which provides free food and emotional and practical support to families.

We worked with 160 young people, who developed skills, confidence, self-esteem, social networks, leadership abilities and resilience through participating in our youth programmes.

Around 82 community groups/organisations and some 5570 people have learned, connected, and improved their wellbeing through participating in activities at our community centres, the Aston-Mansfield Community Centre and Durning Hall. In addition, 26 organisations rented office space.

We worked with around 22 community groups/organisations, providing capacity building support tailored to their needs.

ASTON-MANSFIELD

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Strategy

This was the seventh year of implementation of our strategy, Creating the Future, a summary of which is below.

Creating the Future – In summary

VISION

We want to see more children, young people and families in Newham and East London leading happy healthy lives, realising their potential and unlocking their ambition.

MISSION

Using an integrated and community focused approach we will make long lasting change, offering opportunity, community and inspiration to children, families and young people in Newham and East London.

WE WILL

- Offer a continuum of support, through both direct delivery and signposting, from cradle to career. We will nurture relationships, offer opportunity, community and inspiration throughout our provision.
- Build on our current children and youth programmes, collaborating with inspirational and successful individuals and organisations to offer the best opportunities and experiences.
- Continue to develop and seek out partnerships with the community, voluntary, public and business sectors to ensure that our work is relevant, complementary to other service provisions, sustainable and embedded in best practice.
- Give children, young people and families greater opportunities to thrive and flourish, we will share our expertise and methodologies with other organisations to help inform best practice in the sector.

MAJOR CHANGES

- A move away from our focus on community buildings. Instead we will focus on people-oriented service provision and effective signposting.
- Shifting our voluntary sector capacity building work to focus on organisations working with children, young people and families and development of social enterprises.
- Growing our current children and families programme to include a wider age range and to be present in more geographical areas.
- Growing our youth programme. To cater to the wide and varied needs of young people in Newham and East London.
- Introducing a social enterprise aspect to our ecosystem to create more employment and training opportunities, particularly for young people, and to improve the financial sustainability of our work.

WAYS OF WORKING

- Ecosystems: we work with the ecosystem of organisations effecting children, young people and families, and we create a strong organisational ecosystem.
- 'Giving something back': building opportunities for people who have benefitted from our work to become part of the next generation of Aston-Mansfield, for example as volunteers, staff, supporters and ambassadors.
- An integrated approach: understanding that we are one element of people's lives, and that by working with others within their networks we can improve our impact.
- Successful, ambitious, and enterprising: continuing to learn, innovating, and staying relevant.
- Impact led: understanding and measuring the difference that we make and changing and adapting our work to improve our impact.

During 2023/2024, our progress in relation to the strategy included:

- Continuing to develop a model and process to transform our governance through the involvement and leadership of young people
- Increasing our work with vulnerable children and families
- Expanding our work on positive psychology, journalling, and mental wellbeing with minoritised communities
- Increasing the use of our Community Centres, with more groups and people using the space
- Achieving an amendment to the planning permission for the redevelopment of the Durning Hall site in Forest Gate, required by new building regulations

Children and Family Work

Children's programme

The Little Manor Play Project provides high quality, affordable wraparound care for children in Newham aged five to 12 and comprises breakfast, after school and holiday provision. It also offers emotional and practical support and free food to families. During the year, some 182 children have developed socially, physically, and creatively through a range of play experiences. The children benefit from improved life-skills, confidence, and self-awareness, and parents benefit from affordable wrap around care allowing them to participate in work, study, or training.

Of the 182 children we supported:

- 104 children participated in Breakfast Club
- 127 children participated in Playscheme
- 58 children participated in After School Club
- 28 children attended Transitional Youth

68 families (253 family members) used the Little Manor supermarket

Family Support

"The food service helps me out a lot. To be honest I have come to rely on it, I cannot work as I have to care for my wife as she is unwell. They also helped me get crisis funding when my cooker broke and I could not afford a replacement. The service is invaluable"

"The supermarket is great. Unfortunately, my family is temporarily homeless and placed in a hotel where we have no access to cooking facilities or refrigeration, which limits the amount of food we can take. However Little Manor has been so helpful and supportive, even letting us cook food in their kitchen so that we can take a hot meal back to the hotel."

"I come every week, some weeks there is more stuff than others and each week is different. I find myself cooking from scratch much more as most of the items on offer are fresh. Sometimes there are things I've never had before that I like to try. Recently I've had a go at Kimchi and seaweed."

Little Manor Supermarket provides food and nutrition advice to families. The food we distribute is surplus food provided by our partners City Harvest, the Felix Food Project, and the Newham Food Alliance/FareShare. This year, the Little Manor Supermarket became a Food Club, with families paying a very small amount for the food they receive.

Each week, every family is invited to book a slot to come and collect food. The informal, social atmosphere encourages people to feel free to chat and helps to break down barriers with new parents who may feel apprehensive. Food distribution is a vehicle to facilitate conversation with families. We offer food tastings, cooking suggestions for the ingredients on offer, including healthy options and other useful information. The sessions are informal, so as not to patronise people. Leaflets and information posters are readily available for parents to access.

This year, as part of our Christmas Holiday Programme, we opened the Little Manor Supermarket between Christmas and New Year. In addition to the food from the supermarket, parent and children took home a hamper containing the equivalent of a day's meals and an activity.

"I went with my Mum and Dad to the supermarket and when I got there, they gave me a box with straw in it and nice food and a mug with pens and other stuff to do. They said I had to wait to find out what to do with the stuff that wasn't food and would send my Mum a video. When they came, I made a mug cake and a jiggly robot that made a picture. The jiggly robot was best, I called mine Wiggles."

"The hamper was such a lovely surprise with some delicious goodies and the little activities were a bit of a mystery until we got the videos on what to do. Great fun."

"I was so grateful that Little Manor decided to open the supermarket in the Christmas holidays, I know they are not usually open then. The food I received is so important in helping me make ends meet, especially during holidays like the Christmas break. The kids expect there to be lots of treats and it can get so expensive, it makes me worry."

"Little Manor really helped me out. What was so nice was that I didn't have to ask for help. I would never have asked as I find it all a bit embarrassing. Instead, one of the staff took me to one side and we had a chat. To be honest it was a relief to talk about my problems to someone."

We help families emotionally and practically, offering support and signposting on issues such as housing, debt, benefit applications, mental health and wellbeing, family conflict, difficult behaviour, domestic violence, bullying, online sexual exploitation etc

A child was having regular tantrums since her dad left the family home a few months ago. She lives with her mum and older sister, and mum is struggling to manage the child's behaviour.

"The staff picked up on my child's behaviour quickly and approached me to see how I was doing. It was nice to be asked because her behaviour is getting worse and sometimes I don't want to get up in the morning because she can be so difficult. I didn't realise that talking and support was part of the service. Having the extra support in the holidays has been really helpful."

A family with an 8 week old baby were living in a single hotel room, having been placed there by the local authority after being evicted from their home. Mum had a challenging pregnancy due to complex health issues.

"The help from the centre has made a huge difference to us. We are still struggling, but it feels like we have someone on our side who will speak for us. They also give us advice and they care about our children. They are so happy to come here. They did not miss a day. We thought we were going to be homeless. We were told that nothing could be done until the date of the eviction. The Aston-Mansfield team did a referral and within 2 days we were called about the hotel. The hotel is not good, but it could be worse. We could be homeless. Now, they are still helping us with food. They give me advice on what to tell the health visitor. I know they are pushing for our housing"

A child developed a buzzing in her ear one week before returning to school. The medical diagnosis was that the buzzing was caused by anxiety.

"When the Doctor said that the buzzing was due to anxiety, I was so confused. I'm so grateful that the staff got my daughter to talk about her worry and that they contacted the school. The school have been supportive ever since. The staff at Little Manor build brilliant relationships with the children. My daughter likes them all."

Holiday Programmes

Our holiday programmes include many vulnerable children and their families, supported by funding from the London Borough of Newham/National Government Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF). Our approach is to ensure that HAF children have the same opportunities and experience as families who pay for the service. This year, 36% of the summer HAF children were declared as having Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, including autism, ADHD, speech & language delay, social communication difficulties and sensory processing difficulties. We try our utmost to accept all that apply for our programme, and the children that attend reflect this ethos.

We provide an exceptional variety of physical, healthy diet and lifestyle, and enrichment activities.

"The meals provided helped so much, I was worried before the holidays how we would manage, food is so expensive now."

"I always asked my kids about their meals at Little Manor and can safely say they are simply fantastic, healthy and nutritious and plenty of it. My kids never came home hungry."

"It's very good. The money I save is vital. They get a hot meal or packed lunch; I know the packed lunch is big. They get snacks too; they are out all day and if they were at home they would get bored and be constantly asking for treats and snacks."

"What I like is that my son always gets a proper good-sized meal at Little Manor. He has a huge appetite and if he was home would be munching his way through my fridge pretty quickly."

We aim to improve the children's relationship with food by incorporating food activities that are interesting and stimulating every day. In an area where the chicken shop is King, we offer children new tastes and experiences based around food. Children experience a wide range of food-based activities designed to educate them on the benefits of maintaining a healthy diet and lifestyle. Food preparation, quizzes and tastings give participants the opportunity to try new things. Children making their own hot lunches, snacks and packed lunches is very popular. We avoid making cakes, cookies etc. and focus more on recipes that contribute to a healthy balanced meal or snack, such as jambalaya, tacos, omelettes. We also use a Smoothie bike: the children access a stationary bicycle that harnessed their pedalling energy to power a blender.

"I liked making the carrot jam. it sounded yuk at first. I had to cook and mash carrots. Then we added lemon and sugar and had to boil it until it got very hot. When it cooled down a bit I put it in my jar and made my own label design. I took it home and everyone said it was the best jam ever."

"I went on the smoothie bike. We could choose what fruit we wanted. I chose pineapple, strawberry and apples with apple juice. I also put a bit of ginger in mine because it smelt nice. I had to pedal soft and hard so that my bike on the screen could get up and down the hill. My smoothie was yummy."

"It was good we always had lots of fruit. I love fruit. We had watermelon, blueberries, apples and oranges, different melon, strawberries, pineapple..... um, just lots."

"We did a quiz. We had to sort out different food stuff into how much sugar they had. If we got 4 right we got grapes and if we had another go and did better we got more grapes. I had 5 goes and then got them all right. I like grapes."

"We had to make a thing called stovies. They come from Scotland. We had to chop up lots of vegetables and cook them on our hobs. They cooked for a long time. While it was cooking, we made oat biscuits. If we wanted, we could have some with our lunch. I liked the oat cakes, but the stovies were a yuk. My Mum had some when I got home, she said it was nice, but I think she was lying."

Our holiday programme activities often involve travelling by bus, train or the underground, an enriching experience for many children who do not move far beyond their local area. Our trips enable the children to see and experience new places and activities their parents/carers may not be able to afford. Every child tries something completely new, expanding their horizons. The children find our off-site trips exciting and stimulating, they are very popular.

Enriching off-site activities included trips to Adventure Island, Barking Park – including Bounsea Giant Inflatable, Splash Park & Playground, Botany Bay Beach, Drusillas Park – including Zoo and Adventure Play, Fairplay House – including Archery, High Ropes, Leap of Faith & Orienteering, Hampton Court Palace – including Maze, Magic Garden & Jousting, Ice Skating, King George's Playing Fields – including Adventure Playground, Soft Play, Splash Pad, & Tag Active., King George V Park – Including Cycling & Playground., Lambourne End Outdoor Activity Centre – including Archery, Climbing, Farm Tour, Kayaking, Pony and Cart, Raft Building, Ropes Course, Swimming & Zip Line, Polka Theatre – A performance of Hairy, a comedy about hair with an underlying theme of accepting diversity, Science Museum – including Power Up & The Garden, Unicorn Theatre, Young V&A

We have a wide range of in-house resources available that enable us to ensure that each day spent in our Centre is unique. Activities based in our centre are varied and offer the children the chance to be creative with arts and crafts or use their own imagination and facilitate their own play with activities such as den building. This year on-site activities included 3D Hand Drawing, a visit from Rocky's Animal's, Bubble Play Session, Close-Up Photo Trail, Den Building, Fairground Day Activities, Lego Tower Challenge, Making Magnetic Foam Notebooks, Making Me, Mega Movie, Pop Art Keyrings, Roller Skating, Sensory Quiz, Smoothie Bike with Arcade Game, Health & Wellbeing Day, Water Play Session, Bead Animal Keyrings, Den Building, Design A Christmas Mug, Festive Funk Disco, Jiggle Wiggle Boogie Bot

"A man came with lots of animals. He was funny. I liked the goat best, it escaped and started eating the bushes. We had to help catch it. I also held a snake and a tarantula which was a bit scary."

"I like art, we did 3D art, it was so cool. A real-life artist and showed us what to do. I took my pictures home, they're on the wall now."

"Water day was the best day ever. There was a massive pool and we played water games. We had to limbo under the hose pipe water and if we cheated or didn't make it we got squirted. We had to try and catch water bombs and if we caught it we could throw it at anyone and they couldn't move, even the adults!"

"I went to a show, we had to take a bus and a train there. The people in the show were funny and were hyenas pretending to be humans. I liked the Dad he kept telling jokes and was a good dancer. On the way back we had to get another train. I was a bit squashed at first but then I could sit down. It was my favourite day."

We provide an exceptional variety of physical activities that offer children opportunities to undertake new challenges, many of which help children to develop self-esteem and build confidence. Children participate in at least 60 minutes of physical activity during every session. For a lot of children, the benefits become evident whenever we start a physical activity, particularly outdoors, whatever the weather. For many there is an explosion of energy as soon the opportunity to run around in a large space arises. Physical group games allow us to encourage more sedentary children to be involved while promoting our ethos of having fun, trying new things, joining in and teamwork.

Activities include traditional sports such as badminton, football, cricket, basketball, hockey, tennis, table tennis and rounders, as well as group games specifically aimed at developing teamwork. Other on-site activities included roller skating, dodgeball, parachute games, crazy relays, double Dutch skipping, inflatable activity run, water play and soft play. Off-site sessions included active play at several playgrounds, challenging play at Drusillas Park, water play at splash parks, ice skating, Tag Active and soft Play at King George's Playing Fields, outdoor pursuits at Fairplay House & Lambourne End, cycling at King George V Park, and swimming, paddling, digging, long jump and burying at Botany Bay Beach.

"The day out on the last day was epic. We went on a coach and when we got there, I did TAG Active. You had to try and push buttons that were high up by climbing and bouncing and other stuff. Then we went to the giant playground, it had a giant slide, and then went to the splash park. I was so tired, but it was good."

"We went to the seaside; I got buried in the sand by my friends. The best bit was when we went in the sea. 100%. My friend put seaweed on her head, and it looked like she had green hair. I can swim a little bit."

"I like going in the MUGA because I have a lot of energy, my Mum tells me I have too much energy. I like to run and play. We do Free play in the MUGA with lots of balls and skipping ropes and other stuff, I always play football and basketball."

"My favourite game is the colour game. The playworker shouts out a colour and we have to run and touch something that is that colour. If you are last you can be out. I am good at this game because I can run really fast."

The Manor (Transitional Youth Project)

"I like The Manor because I'm able to do everything. No-one underestimates me or what I can do. The staff help us to do our best. They are sometimes strict, but it is usually for a reason. Because they want us to learn and have fun. The London transport day was long, but I understand the map now and how it works. The choices workshop was sad and scary when you think about who would choose to carry knives. I want to come back and volunteer as well. I actually like the cooking stuff that we did, and the supermarket doesn't feel like work. Staff tell us about fridge temperature and why the freezer locks and food dates. I don't go to any other club like this. My Mum says its best. I think she is right. Oh, I just remembered skiing!!! Never thought I would go skiing."
(Young person with disabilities)

The Manor is a project for young people in the early years of secondary education aged 12-14, aimed at building confidence, resilience, citizenship, independence, and diverse young leaders. Young people have a direct input in creating the rules and parameters required to ensure the smooth running of the programme; they are creators, not just consumers, which helps them to build ownership of the programme. Activities include developmental workshops, volunteer tasks, self-led activities, and off-site trips. Participants also volunteer at Little Manor Supermarket.

This year, 28 young people participated in The Manor, the vast majority of whom were from minoritized communities. Around 28% had a diagnosed disability. The group had diverse needs and included young people who felt ashamed about their living environment, who had been neglected by their parents and were in foster care, who regularly self-harmed, who said that they didn't have any friends at school and suffered from social anxiety, who were struggling with a recent family bereavement, whose dad is imprisoned for murder and mum has been sectioned and is in foster care, who is diagnosed with autism and who had attempted self-harm, who had concerns about their body image, who has dyspraxia, who has glaucoma and uveitis, who has speech & language delay, sensory processing difficulties and social communication difficulties, who come from households with historic domestic violence, who live in temporary accommodation, who are suspected to have ADHD and who have social, emotional and mental health difficulties.

From evidence provided by 25 young people, we know that:

88% of young people felt that their physical health or wellbeing had improved, and that they were more physically active

All participants said that they had enjoyed most of the physical elements of the programme and that they would participate again. 15 participants said that if it wasn't for The Manor they would have had much less exercise during the Summer and therefore believed that the programme had contributed to improved physical Wellbeing. One young person felt that their health had not improved but had been maintained because he usually cycles to school and doesn't get to do this in the holidays. The skiing session was the most popular physical activity with all participants saying that it was a new activity for them.

"Oh my gosh the indoor skiing was amazing; it was real snow. I fell down so many times. And the ringo slide, I think it was my funnest day."

"I always liked it when we had free time and could do what we liked. I liked to play in the MUGA, basketball or football. Sometimes we would all do double dutch skipping which was quite hard at first but we all just got better and better. I think it's good for your co-ordination which will help me with my football."

20 participants believed that they would have spent a lot more time indoors if they were not attending the project. 14 participants said that, with the exception of P.E. in school, they engaged in very little physical activity. Others reported being members of various clubs including football, basketball, and gymnastics.

"We did roller skating in the MUGA and played a basketball game on roller skates; I kept skating past the ball and couldn't pick it up. I don't think this is a sport, but it would be good if it was."

"The London Transport Challenge was hard. I did more steps than ever that day. Because it was a challenge, I didn't really think it was exercise until I felt my legs hurting."

"The games in the park were funny. It was like P.E. but less competitive."

92% of young people reported improved mental health or wellbeing

Young people discussed recognised the benefits of outdoor activity, and those living in crowded accommodation spoke of the relief of getting to go out. Several young people expressed that their parents restrict them from going out because they worry about the neighbourhood, however they were happy for their children to attend the programme.

"It's easy to get stuck in ya own brain when you don't leave your room to do anything".

"We got to pick some of our own activities. I liked this because I could choose quiet time."

"I only joined in October. I don't think doing building with the little children was good for my mental health, but everything else was. I learned more about gangs, and I think the workshop will help with confidence on the street."

100% of young people felt that their social networks had improved

Young people commented on how several parts of the programme forced them to engage with everybody. It was not possible for people to be left out or ignored. Some of the young people thought that it was difficult to get heard because certain members of the group were quite loud. The young people attended twelve different secondary schools. Every young person reported making at least one new friend from a different school.

"The girls at my school gossip. They talk about other girls, and they pretend to be your friend. It's hard to find people to trust at school."

"I know people from more schools and more areas."

100% of young people felt that their social, communication and relationship skills improved

Young people felt that workshops and team building exercises helped develop their communication skills. While some young people did not think that their communication skills with their peers had improved, every young person felt that either their communication with adults (via the supermarket) or younger children (via the volunteering tasks) had improved.

"Working with the younger children you had to find ways to explain really simple things. You need a lot of patience."

"I had to talk to strangers to give out the food. I know what it would be like to work in a shop now. You have to smile a lot and be polite."

"I liked volunteering with the children. It's good when they do what you say, and they get it."

While not all young people acknowledged improvement in their communication skills with their peers, staff members recognised significant improvement in all young people, particularly in interactions where a young person with additional needs was involved.

64% of young people felt they were less likely to engage in anti-social behaviour

Young people said that when they are out on their own, they generally try to avoid antisocial situations. A few said that had they not been on the programme they would have been out with their friends on some of the days. They admitted that when they are with their friends, they are more likely to engage in anti-social behaviour. Some young people said that they don't ever engage in anti-social behaviour as they very rarely go out other than attending school.

"If I wasn't at the centre I would be at home. I don't really go out. I play roblox."

"I don't like being out much. I was walking home from school once and I saw a man get robbed by people with a knife. I didn't know what to do. It isn't safe by me."

"Sometimes, with my friends after school we do mad stuff, not really bad. It's more them than me."

80% of young people felt an increased sense of belonging in the community

Young people said that volunteering in the Supermarket made them feel more connected to the community and that they knew more people from volunteering with the younger children and volunteering in the supermarket. They now see these children and families when they are out and about.

"I had to talk to customers and sometimes I see some of the people I served on the street. They recognise me and say hello."

"Working in the supermarket feels like you are helping people which feels good."

Youth Work

160 young people participated in our youth projects during the year.

We engaged young people through funded and internal programmes to further develop our network and create trusted relationships with young people. Some of our activities included group coaching through Action Learning Sets to support young people with challenges and barriers in achieving goals, new experiences of punting in Cambridge, and embracing culture and diversity through community Iftar events and experiencing new foods from around the world.

We received 37 responses from our annual survey of young people who we have supported:

96% significantly developed their skills 78% indicated that their confidence and resilience improved 75% expanded their social and professional networks 100% felt that we are inclusive and accessible as an organisation 100% felt their opinions were heard and acted on 87% are very satisfied with our services 100% would recommend us to others
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Young Facilitators (YFs)

"I started going to Aston-Mansfield events because school was always encouraging everyone to find programmes that will help with your future career, so I joined the social action programme at Aston Mansfield and it was so much fun, I learnt lots, and the vibe was always so welcoming. After the programme ended, I attended other things and when the YF position became available I jumped at the chance. Thankfully, I got the job, and it has been amazing. I always thought that I was confident and able but working as a YF and the responsibility and the challenges that come with it, I now fully realise that I still have lots to learn, and I think I am doing that with help from the youth team. My planning and organisation are so much better now. I manage my time with my other work, studies and family commitments and don't double book, and I am more comfortable and enjoy talking to new groups of people. The amount of support and training opportunities that come as being a YF is a lot, and my CV now reflects that. I was given direct support by my managers, and they really helped me to secure my apprenticeship that starts in Autumn in project management".

Our youth work model includes employing young people (aged 18 to 25) to work as paid young facilitators, in developmental roles, usually lasting around 12 to 18 months. With support and training from more experienced youth workers, the young facilitators play a key role in engaging and supporting young people across all our youth programmes whilst co-producing and delivering activities, workshops, and learning days.

Project Management Masterclass

We ran a weeklong Project Management Masterclass, for 16 young people, as part of the Prince's Trust Get Started programme. The project management masterclass theme resonated with the young people eliciting a keen and enthusiastic response. With 26 signups the young people showcased a genuine interest in developing their skills within the realm of project management.

"I realise I can use a lot of these project management skills in my personal life too which is great. Especially the tools"

"The communications skills activities, especially the role play part made me realise that sometimes you really have to think before you speak, and you have to adapt the way you speak to people in different environments"

"The cooking Challenge was so stressful as we had to think about the budget and work in a time constraint and create something edible that was presented nicely, I don't really know how to cook so I felt out of my comfort zone"

"Having young facilitators and doing fun activities that allow us to use the skills we have learned was great, I enjoyed coming to the course, it was engaging as it did not feel like school/college"

"I think I improved on quite a few skills from when I first started, I am happy I have a new skill to add to my CV, as I am currently looking for work"

The programme was fun and interactive, designed to keep the young people interested and motivated. We

- incorporated interactive activities such as team games, group discussions, role play, brainstorms and competitions to keep participants actively engaged and apply project management concepts in different scenarios.
- encouraged peer collaboration and teamwork through group activities, mini projects and discussions. Some of the facilitators of the project management course were also young people - this helped us add a different feel to the learning environment and encouraged young people to learn from each other. Some participants fed back they were inspired by the young facilitators and being taught by them was "really engaging as it did not feel like school/college".
- adjusted some of the pace, content and activities based on participant feedback which ultimately helped maintain interest and relevance.
- incorporated some fun socials that tied in with learning topics, for example after we explored communication skills and teamwork in Project Management we took the young people to an escape room to help them implement some of the skills they had learned in a fun setting. We also asked the young people to take part in a cooking competition in teams after learning about time management and budgeting.

Digital Wellbeing

"Joining the digital well-being content programme was a great experience for me, I was able to brainstorm with my peers on what kind of digital content other young people could benefit from and I used my creative skills to help with the actual designing of the content. I worked on the social media detox vlog and was really proud to share some tips that could really help others, I am trying to continue with it, and I feel I have a much healthier relationship with social media now".

R 19years

"Participating in the discussion about men's mental health was eye-opening and rewarding. It was a safe space where I felt comfortable sharing my thoughts and hearing the perspectives of others. The openness and honesty in the conversation made me realise that I'm not alone in facing challenges related to mental health. The insights and stories shared by other males similar in my age and from different backgrounds were not only relatable but also super helpful. I genuinely enjoyed the experience and am grateful for the opportunity to contribute to a dialogue that is often overlooked but crucial for men's mental health and well-being" **JBY 18years**

"I enjoyed my time with Aston Mansfield and being a part of the Digital wellbeing content programme as it enabled me to create digital content that would benefit parents and young people and it also helped me reflect on my own personal mental health, something I don't often do. As much as the program wasn't to help with my mental health specifically, through the brainstorming, research and design process I learned about different methods of tackling mental health

issues, which worked for me and so I feel as though it can really help others. I became more aware and understanding of struggles others may go through. It was an engaging and interactive way of learning and designing content. I also picked up new design skills such as editing on Canva and Capcut" **H, 18years old**

We were commissioned by London Borough of Newham (LBN) to work with young people and parents to create digital materials about mental wellbeing for young people. 22 young people participated in the project, and all of them felt that their knowledge about their mental health and wellbeing improved, and that their knowledge of digital platforms had developed. 90% felt that they were more confident in accessing mental health support for themselves or their friends. Aspects of the project included sharing perspectives on young men's mental health, and a collective digital detox. The young people created digital assets, including videos and vlogs, which are used by LBN to support young people's mental wellbeing.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Community Connectors

Community Connectors support people who are experiencing mental health difficulties. Some are already using mental health services, and others refer themselves through open access provision. Our holistic interventions focus on supporting people to address their social needs and increase their independence, resilience, confidence, and self-esteem, which has a positive impact on their overall wellbeing.. This includes advice and support around housing, immigration, welfare benefits, financial advice, food banks as well as help to overcome loneliness, or learn new skills, and attend support groups and social activities.

This year, we assisted 377 people. The predominant issues were social activities, housing, benefits, social inclusion, finance, employment, and debt. We supported people experiencing domestic abuse, isolation and depression, and substance and alcohol abuse.

The Newham voluntary, community and faith sectors, and statutory support services are very overstretched. Community Connectors stepped in to support clients with resilience building and providing alternative support offers.

This includes Aston-Mansfield opportunities such as volunteering, and our wellbeing workshops.

Dahlia was initially referred to the community connector team for support with housing and benefits. She had stopped speaking, due to traumatic personal events including a recent abusive relationship. Her ex-partner had taken control of the finances and housing situation, which led to them being homeless and financially unstable. We worked closely with Dahlia and her sister, who was her main communicator, and arranged for a housing officer with substantial experience of supporting survivors of domestic violence to work with her. We also connected her to Newham Money benefit advisor, who assessed her financial needs and benefits entitlements. Dahlia is now on the waiting list for a temporary house and has registered for additional benefits.

Noah was recently discharged from a psychiatric ward. Separation from his partner of 25 years and being made redundant at the same time had led to him wanting to take his own life. He was very isolated, hearing voices and experiencing paranoia.

Through regular meetings, rapport building and advocacy, he was provided with universal credit, PIP and housing benefit. He was introduced to peer-to-peer support, supported in numerous community engagements and utilized his lived experience to support others struggling with thoughts of taking their own lives.

He recently proudly walked his daughter down the aisle, his family has learned about suicide in men and the great impact mental ill health has on the Caribbean community. This has reduced their fear and helped them to understand his situation.

He is currently being supported by the employment team, has visitation rights with his younger daughter and is actively involved in running podcasts, support groups and journalling.

Positive Psychology Journalling and Coaching

In 2022/23 we piloted some preventative and early intervention services that focused on emotional and mental health and wellbeing. Based on this, we secured funding from London Catalyst to expand our mental wellbeing work, which is designed with and for minoritised communities.

The focus of this work is to provide preventative and early intervention programmes and tools that support members of the community wishing to improve their well-being as well as those with mental health issues who wish to find more services to support them.

We ran wellbeing programmes that use evidence-based Therapeutic Writing, Expressive Writing, Applied Positive Psychology and Coaching Psychology interventions, designed for Black and Asian men and women.

61 people engaged with the programme in total, from a broad range of ethnicities:

Women's Ethnicity

33% Black British
23% African
17% Caribbean
15% Indian
3% Mixed Heritage - Black and White
3% Persian
3% Bengali
3% Chinese

Men's Ethnicity

38% Black British
38% Caribbean
13% Pakistani
11% African

Participants were primarily men and women who wanted to improve their well-being in a time when pressures such as inflation, wars, misogyny and the effects of post-COVID are impacting their lives. Most people were not accessing any other mental health and wellbeing services in the borough.

100% of women and 99% of men would highly recommend the programmes to others.

The programmes equipped participants with evidence-based tools which they feel they can use and incorporate into their lives. Everyone felt they benefitted from being able to learn together, share their lived experiences and grow within groups that they felt were safe.

The men and women continue to support and encourage each other via three online groups which continue to run months after their programmes are finished.

Aston-Mansfield also continues to act as a bridge to other services for many participants who have stayed in contact, and we provide additional support and signposting.

The impact of our programmes included:

86% of women and 65% of men reported an improved understanding of clarifying goals and increased confidence to act on them

75% of women and 50% of men reported increased confidence in thinking about and planning for the future

71% of women and 67% of men reported improved thoughts and wellbeing

65% of women and 50% of men reported lowered stress

65% of women and 34% of men reported reduced mild depression

65% of women and 50% of men reported reduced feelings of being overwhelmed

50% of women and 50% of men reported lowered anxiety

47% of women and 67% reported increased self-esteem

43% of women and 67% of men reported being able to understand and process their emotions better

40% of women and 20% of men reported improved clarity regarding decision-making
(many felt that they did not have an issue in this area)

30% of women and 70% of men reported increased understanding and application of organisational tools they received from the programmes

18% of women and 68% of men reported reduced rumination

Everyone said that

They valued learning about and using cost-effective tools to improve their mental health and wellbeing

There is a need for culturally safe spaces where they were free of judgement and felt understood and heard.

They appreciated and enjoyed the cultural hot meals and healthy eating options that were provided.

I have a better understanding of journaling. I suffer from depression; I'm using journaling to process my overwhelming thoughts. I use journaling to self-soothe which really helps.

It means the world to have a safe space for women like this as we have lived experiences like no other

I met amazing women full of positive energy regardless of the struggles that go on behind closed doors

I am not alone

I felt safe enough to be vulnerable

I felt nurtured and loved throughout the process

I feel empowered, amazed, fulfilled

As women with shared cultures, we were able to offer each other support, advice and accountability

I learnt how much I am able to make a difference in my own life and others

There is a lot we bottle in, and this safe space provides an outlet that helps us to see that we are not alone in our struggles. It means a lot to have a safe space where I can freely express myself free of judgement.

It's hard to let down barriers generally however it was almost immediate within this women's course

I am blown away by the programme very relevant and on point I can't speak highly enough about it. Thank you

This was impactful, meaningful and purposeful

I enjoyed having a space where I could learn, be reflective, practice journaling and work towards my goals and dreams

It was great to have a space to hear transparent expressions of the things we are experiencing from fellow black men

I learnt a lot about myself in the process... I gained insight on my strengths and what I need to focus on

I have gained a lot of confidence and self-worth

The group support especially on the last day was emotional

Thank you for creating a beautiful space for us

I got so much from today's session, especially the health benefits

I understand the benefits of consciously taking ownership of my mental well-being.

What I liked about the programme is the sense of community, it is a great indicator of the necessity of programmes like these.

As black men no one will truly understand the struggles we face but us. I have found it challenging to find anything like these sessions.

Recruiting and maintaining volunteers continues to be challenging for a variety of reasons. Volunteers have moved into employed work, whilst some have experienced relapses in their health but feel confident in the knowledge that they can return to volunteering without judgment when their health improves. Many of our post-graduate volunteers continued to provide coaching to staff and other volunteers but due to reduced funding, there have not been enough coaching opportunities and training to keep the majority on.

Highlights of the year include

- Our growing reputation within the borough for supporting those with mental health challenges and who are neurodiverse to have meaningful volunteering experiences
- Continuing to work with the University of East London to bring coaching into the community which also provides its post-graduate students with coaching opportunities
- Seeing a high volume of volunteers volunteering for shorter periods as they gain employment or enter education. All have expressed gratitude for gaining practical work experience or developing their self-esteem so that they could take these important steps.

48 people volunteered with us this year.

ASTON-MANSFIELD

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The statement of financial activities shows a net deficit for the year of £66,880 (2023: £131,385). Income increased by 0.62% in the year to £1,622,723. Total expenditure decreased by 3.13% to £1,689,603 compared with prior year: £1,744,108.

Other than bank deposits the charity does not hold investments.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees review on a quarterly basis the charity's development and operational plans, future funding needs and its overall resilience and financial stability in light of its ability to meet its charitable objectives for the foreseeable future (usually a period upto 3 years).

The Trustees' consideration takes into account the major risks to the organisation – see Risk Management below. Additionally, the Trustees consider the need to ensure viability of the charity beyond the immediate future, absorb setbacks and be able to take advantage of opportunities and new initiatives.

As discussed in the Trustees' Report, Aston Mansfield Charitable Trust ("AMCT") a connected charity (see Note 19 to the Accounts):

- is working with Newham Clinical Commissioning Group and the GP / Primary Care Centre at the Aston-Mansfield Community Centre, Manor Park; and
- has commissioned an initial plan for the redevelopment of the Durning Hall Site

It is anticipated these impending capital and development works may have some short to medium term operational impact reducing revenues from existing property assets and requiring incremental staff and other costs to continue service provision without use of the Froud Centre or Durning Hall.

As this is likely to absorb brought forward reserves the Trustees have determined to adopt, during this transitional phase of investment in the future, a "zero level" reserves policy.

AMCT has historically provided the charity with an annual grant with a non-binding preference from the donor for this to support its work on strategic development, marketing and communications, fundraising, financial management and volunteer development. In view of operational impact of AMCT's capital and development works AMCT has indicated that it will additionally support the charity in meeting its operational costs to the extent revenues are reduced or costs increased as a result of development at the Aston-Mansfield Community Centre or consequent to the re-development of the Forest Gate site. Additional charitable initiatives would be funded by new sources of grants and voluntary income.

The charity's reserve position as at 31 March 2024 is disclosed in Note 18 to the Accounts. At 31 March 2024 the charity held total funds of £1,600,482 (2023 - £1,667,362) of which £1,393,398 (2023 - £1,420,407) represents the Endowment Fund, Restricted Fund £92,439 (2023- £69,936) and Unrestricted Fund £114,645 (2023 - £177,019).

ASTON-MANSFIELD

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

For the reasons explained above, and having considered the charity's income, expenditure and risks including Covid-19, the trustees are satisfied that the charity would remain viable for the foreseeable future even if no free reserves are held.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

As of August 2024, we are negotiating the sale of Durning Hall to a developer.

Our current Chair is planning to step down, and we have begun the process of recruiting a new Chair.

Our plans for implementing 'Creating the Future', our strategy which is outlined earlier in this report, include

- Continuing to grow our work with children and young people
- Developing our mental health and wellbeing offer
- Moving away, over time, from providing community space in some areas
- Working with the Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust on the redevelopment of the Forest Gate site
- Improving the financial sustainability of the organisation

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Aston-Mansfield is a registered charity (number 220085) and a company limited by guarantee (number 48350). The charity is governed by its Articles of Association. These were revised in the light of current legislation and adopted by the members on 14 April 2010.

We have between 7 and 15 trustees at any one time, two of whom are appointed by Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust. We aim to have a Board whose skills and diversity mix fit with Aston-Mansfield's strategic direction, core activities and regulatory requirements. Trustees are appointed through an open recruitment process, which includes an interview with the Chair, and at least one other Trustee, followed by confirmation by the Board.

There is an induction process for new trustees which includes an induction pack, introductory sessions with the Chief Executive and management team, and project visits. New trustees are supported by more experienced trustees through a 'buddying' system.

The trustees meet at least six times a year. Trustees are updated on significant regulatory and sector developments, and participate in training on core issues, for example safeguarding.

The day to day management of the charity is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer who consults regularly with the Chairman and reports to the trustees at each of their meetings.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:

- An annual review of the principal risks and uncertainties that the charity faces. This includes assessing the key success factors, critical dependencies, constraint factors and key milestones and performance indicators for the major changes encompassed in our strategy, Creating the Future, and an analysis of the highest impact risks to which Aston-Mansfield is exposed
- The establishment of policies, systems, and procedures to mitigate risks
- Strategic and operational plans and an annual budget, and progress reporting against plans and budget
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise or manage any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise

ASTON-MANSFIELD

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees have identified that the major risks are related principally to delays/blockages to redevelopment of the Durning Hall site, and reputation risk due to redevelopment of Durning Hall site. Medium level risks are failure to get sufficient returns on the development of the GP/Primary Care Centre at the Aston-Mansfield Community Centre in Manor Park, the risk of a major fire/flood/building related incident, long term financial sustainability, Trustees and/or management team not having sufficient knowledge/skills, capacity, or diversity and pressures on management on staff. The Trustees have sought to mitigate risk where possible, particularly relating to ensuring that the organisation has access to appropriate governance, professional expertise, and management capability, and that there are plans for and investment in achieving financial sustainability.

On this basis the Trustees are satisfied that all material risks are managed effectively, and that the charity will be funded adequately for the foreseeable future.

PAY POLICY FOR SENIOR STAFF

The directors consider that the Board of Directors, who are the charity's trustees, and the Chief Executive Officer comprise the key management personnel of the charity, in charge of directing and controlling, running, and operating the charity on a day to day basis. All trustees give of their time freely, and no trustee received remuneration in the year. Details of trustees' expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in note 13 and note 19 of the accounts.

The pay of the Chief Executive is reviewed by the trustees annually, and a Remuneration Committee, whose role includes setting the remuneration of the Chief Executive, was established in July 2018. Any increase is based on benchmarking against pay levels in other comparator charities, and performance against agreed objectives.

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 17 of The Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission in determining the activities undertaken by the charity.

The charity's charitable purpose is detailed in its objects, which are to develop, for the public benefit, the community wealth of East London and promote a diverse and inclusive society in which all are free to participate.

Delivery of public benefit is achieved through direct provision of services through the charity's work with children, young people, and families and through the use of its community buildings. The charity is actively engaged in working in partnership with other voluntary sector organisations, and the local authority to ensure an enhanced quality of life to members of the community.

FUNDRAISING PRACTICE AND PERFORMANCE

Aston-Mansfield's fundraising is largely focused on raising funds from Trusts and Foundations and earning income from the public through charity shop sales. The main source of income raised from the public is trading activity through the charity shop. Hence the charity is not signed up to any voluntary fundraising regulation. Aston-Mansfield staff and volunteers undertake all fundraising activity, and there have been no complaints received by Aston-Mansfield about its fundraising activities (2023: no complaints).

ASTON-MANSFIELD

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

SISTER CHARITY

Aston-Mansfield has a sister charity, Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust (AMCT) to which Aston-Mansfield is connected. The two charities have similar objects, which encompass supporting and developing disadvantaged communities in East London.

Aston-Mansfield achieves its impact through the direct provision of services to children and young people and families, and through renting space in the community buildings to other groups and organisations in the not for profit sector. Additionally, it provides resources, expertise and training to other groups and organisations in the not for profit sector, thus enabling those organisations to deliver their services to their clients and communities. The Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust is also a Registered Social Landlord, with Aston-Mansfield acting as the managing agent for its social housing

The two charities are separate organisations, each with their own Charity Commission registration numbers, governance arrangements and financial management processes and procedures. The Aston-Mansfield Board currently has 9 Trustees, 4 of whom are Trustees of AMCT. The AMCT Board currently has 8 Trustees, 4 of whom are not a Trustee of Aston-Mansfield. We believe this balance of shared knowledge and independence is beneficial for both organisations. Board meetings are held and minuted separately. It should be noted that Aston-Mansfield prepares and reports on completely separate Accounts with its own reserves and a clear Reserves Policy.

As Aston-Mansfield's work meets AMCT's funding criteria, the charity applies to AMCT for a grant on an annual basis. The size of the grant awarded depends on several factors including the level of disposable income available to AMCT, the performance of Aston-Mansfield in the previous year and its needs in respect of its work on strategic development, marketing and communications, fundraising, financial management and volunteer development. AMCT has supported AM's additional operational costs incurred through COVID and while the property portfolio is rationalised. Aston-Mansfield reports regularly on its performance to AMCT. AMCT also awards grants to other charities, through an open application process, based on defined priorities and funding criteria.

The charity remains grateful to AMCT for its generosity in this matter, but recognises this arrangement is dependent on several factors, not least the current economic climate and property markets, and current support is no guarantee of future support. Aston-Mansfield acts as the managing agent for several AMCT's properties, and this enables Aston-Mansfield to spend more of its voluntary income on direct work with its beneficiary groups.

Whilst Aston-Mansfield is extremely grateful to AMCT for the continued support of its work, the Trustees recognise this support is agreed on an annual basis and can never be guaranteed. Aston-Mansfield is therefore continually seeking new sources of voluntary income to guarantee the future of its services.

ASTON-MANSFIELD

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of the Aston Mansfield for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time of the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as we are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

In preparing the Trustees Report, the Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption available to small companies and have not prepared a strategic report.

Approved by the Board on 24 September 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

C C Keen

C C Keen
Chairman

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Aston-Mansfield for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheets, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of the charitable company's net movement in funds, including the income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report (which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report (which incorporates the directors' report).

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the charitable company; or
- the charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 22, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Based on our understanding of the charitable company and the environment in which it operates, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to regulatory requirements charities and companies in England and Wales, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, income tax and payroll tax.

We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls), and determined that the principal risks were related to posting inappropriate journal entries to revenue and management bias in accounting estimate and application of controls around authorisation of expenditure and payments. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Inspecting correspondence with regulators and tax authorities;
- Discussions with management including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulation and fraud;
- Evaluating management's controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities;
- Identifying and testing journals, in particular journal entries postings by unusual users or with unusual descriptions; and
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their critical accounting estimates.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ASTON-MANSFIELD

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Jane Askew
Senior Statutory Auditor
for and on behalf of Haysmacintyre LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors

2 October 2024

10 Queen Street Place
London
EC4R 1AG

ASTON-MANSFIELD

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

		Endowment Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Income	Notes					
Income from donations and legacies						
Donations		-	-	130	130	1,617
Income from charitable activities						
Grants	3	-	174,144	876,385	1,050,529	1,058,293
Project income		-	-	638	638	1,024
Rents and facility hire	4	-	-	500,948	500,948	485,507
Income from other trading activities						
Shop sales		-	-	47,063	47,063	47,131
Other income	5	-	-	23,415	23,415	19,151
Total income		-	174,144	1,448,579	1,622,723	1,612,723
Expenditure						
Expenditure on raising funds						
Fundraising		-	-	(90,625)	(90,625)	(81,116)
Shop operating costs		-	-	(46,278)	(46,278)	(45,524)
Expenditure on charitable activities						
Lifelong learning		-	(26,252)	(340,081)	(366,333)	(458,674)
Healthy living		-	(101,626)	(34,214)	(135,840)	(111,603)
Community development		-	(23,763)	(16,008)	(39,771)	(77,311)
Community buildings		(27,009)	-	(983,747)	(1,010,756)	(969,880)
Total expenditure	6	(27,009)	(151,641)	(1,510,953)	(1,689,603)	(1,744,108)
Net income/(expenditure)		(27,009)	22,503	(62,374)	(66,880)	(131,385)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(27,009)	22,503	(62,374)	(66,880)	(131,385)
Fund balances as at 1 April 2023		1,420,407	69,936	177,019	1,667,362	1,798,747
FUND BALANCES AT 31 MARCH 2024		<u>£1,393,398</u>	<u>£92,439</u>	<u>£114,645</u>	<u>£1,600,482</u>	<u>£1,667,362</u>

There were no recognised gains and losses other than those stated above.

No separate Summary Income and Expenditure Account has been produced as this statement incorporates all Income and Expenditure. Net income for the purposes of Companies Act 2006 excludes income and expenditure in respect of endowment funds.

Excluding movements on endowment funds, net deficit for the year was £39,865 (2023: net deficit £104,376).

A full comparative Statement of Financial Activities is included at note 22.

The notes on pages 29 to 43 form part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET

AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024	2023
		£	£
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	9	1,591,652	1,616,989
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	10	66,803	104,121
Cash at bank and in hand		105,120	135,619
		<u>171,923</u>	<u>239,740</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(163,093)</u>	<u>(189,367)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>8,830</u>	<u>50,373</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>£1,600,482</u>	<u>£1,667,362</u>
Funds:			
Endowment Fund	15	1,393,398	1,420,407
Restricted Fund	16,20	92,439	69,936
Unrestricted Fund	17	<u>114,645</u>	<u>177,019</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS AT 31 MARCH 2024	18	<u>£1,600,482</u>	<u>£1,667,362</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by Board of the Trustees on 24 September 2024 and were signed below on its behalf by:

C C Keen

Christopher C Keen
Chairman

Alexander Minford

Alex Minford
Deputy Chairman

The notes on pages 29 to 43 form part of these financial statements.

ASTON-MANSFIELD

CASHFLOW STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
CASH USED/GENERATED IN OPERATING ACTIVITIES	12	(28,177)	(67,882)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	9	(2,322)	(847)
(DECREASE)/INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS IN THE YEAR		(30,499)	(68,729)
<i>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</i>			
Cash balances at 1 April 2023		135,619	204,348
CASH BALANCES AT 31 MARCH 2024		<u>£105,120</u>	<u>£135,619</u>

The notes on pages 29 to 43 form part of these financial statements.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

Accounting Basis

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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) (second edition, effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Aston-Mansfield meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s). These financial statements have been drawn up in the historical accounting basis, except that certain freehold properties are carried at valuation.

The financial statements incorporate the assets and liabilities of The Lady Trower Trust (Registered Charity number 303172) under a charity commission scheme dated 1994.

The accounts are prepared in pounds sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

Preparation of accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees consider there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The review of our financial position, reserves levels and future plans gives Trustees confidence the charity remains a going concern for the foreseeable future.

In reaching this conclusion, the trustees have reviewed cash flow forecasts covering a period of more than one year from the date of approval of these accounts.

Critical accounting judgements and estimates

In preparing these financial statements, management has made judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of the charities accounting policies and the reported assets, liabilities, income and expenditure and the disclosures made in the financial statements. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. No significant estimates, judgements or assumptions have been applied in the preparation of these financial statements.

Income recognition

Income from shop sales, rents and facility hire and management consultancy fees are accounted for when receivable. Grants are accounted for when the charity becomes entitled to the funding and donations are accounted for when received.

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that 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.

Direct costs, including directly attributable salaries, are allocated on an actual basis to the relevant areas of programme activity. Overheads and other salaries are allocated between expense headings on the basis of time spent.

Support costs which include central office administration are allocated across the categories of cost of raising funds', charitable activities and governance costs. The basis of allocation is set out in note 7 c). Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements relating to the general running of the charity, including costs of strategic planning for the longer term development of the charity.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost in the statement of financial activity.

Fixed Assets

Buildings are depreciated at a rate of 2% per annum.

Other assets are depreciated, in equal annual instalments, over their economic lives at the following rates:

Electronic equipment	25%
Furniture and other equipment	15%
Motor vehicles	25%
Froud Centre Adventure Playground	10%

Assets costing more than £500 are capitalised.

Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments, including trade and other debtors and creditors are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost, on a first-in-first-out basis, and net realisable value.

Operating leases

Rentals payable are charged on a time basis over the term of the lease.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Foreign currency translation

The charities functional and presentation currency is pound sterling. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. All differences are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Employee benefits

- Short term benefits
Short term benefits including holiday pay are recognised as an expense in the period in which the service is received.
- Employee termination benefits
Termination benefits are accounted for on an accrual basis and in line with FRS 102.
- Pension scheme
Aston-Mansfield operates a defined contribution pension scheme for the benefit of its employees. The assets of the scheme are held independently from those of Aston-Mansfield in an independently administered fund. The pensions costs charged in the financial statements represent the contributions payable during the year.

Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are:

- **Unrestricted funds**

These are general funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

- **ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

- **Restricted funds**

These are funds subject to specific trusts generally declared by the donor or funds raised for a specific purpose.

- **Endowment funds**

These are permanent funds and must be held indefinitely consisting of two sites of land and property. They are not expendable. However, one of the endowed assets may be changed, for instance the proceeds arising from the sale of the property might be invested in other suitable forms of endowed investment or in the other endowed property. These funds arise from the amalgamation of The Lady Trower Trust with those of the charity in 1994.

Taxation

The charity's activities are exempt from income tax and corporation tax. The charity is registered for Value Added Tax. Certain of the charity's activities are exempt or non-business activities for Value Added Tax purposes and consequently the charity is unable to reclaim all the Value Added Tax it incurs on its purchases. Expenditure in these financial statements is therefore shown inclusive of Value Added Tax suffered.

LEGAL STATUS

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of a winding up is limited to £0.50.

3. INCOME FROM GRANTS	2024 £	2023 £
Grant income classified within income from charitable activities		
Aston Mansfield Charitable Trust	848,885	789,385
Local government	26,900	10,000
Other statutory bodies	-	30,069
Corporate bodies	172,944	174,868
Trusts and Livery companies	1,800	53,971
	<u>£1,050,529</u>	<u>£1,058,293</u>

Income attributable to fundraising efforts is £201,644 (2023: £257,612).

4. RENTS AND SIMILAR INCOME	2024 £	2023 £
Property rental income	462,876	447,507
Wayleave income	37,982	37,982
Facility hire	90	18
	<u>£500,948</u>	<u>£485,507</u>

5.	OTHER INCOME	2024 £	2023 £
	Cost recoveries	18,586	16,606
	Sundries	4,829	2,545
		<u>£23,415</u>	<u>£19,151</u>

6.	EXPENDITURE	Staff Costs £	Support Costs £	Other direct Costs £	Total 2024 £
a)	Analysis of total expenditure				
	Cost of raising funds				
	Fundraising	78,216	12,409	-	90,625
	Shop operating costs	38,333	7,945	-	46,278
		<u>116,549</u>	<u>20,354</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>136,903</u>
	Charitable activities				
	Unrestricted funds				
	Lifelong learning	204,894	92,331	42,856	340,081
	Healthy Living	26,058	7,712	444	34,214
	Community development	11,727	4,281	-	16,008
	Community buildings	494,638	489,109	-	983,747
		<u>737,317</u>	<u>593,433</u>	<u>43,300</u>	<u>1,374,050</u>
	Restricted funds				
	Lifelong learning	12,939	690	12,623	26,252
	Healthy Living	97,684	1,819	2,123	101,626
	Community development	11,930	1,023	10,810	23,763
	Community buildings	-	-	-	-
		<u>122,553</u>	<u>3,532</u>	<u>25,556</u>	<u>151,641</u>
	Endowment Funds				
	Community buildings	-	27,009	-	27,009
		<u>-</u>	<u>27,009</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,009</u>
	Total expenditure 2024	<u>£976,419</u>	<u>£644,328</u>	<u>£68,856</u>	<u>£1,689,603</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

6. EXPENDITURE (continued)						Direct Costs £	Head Office £	Total 2024 £
b) Analysis of staff costs								
Cost of raising funds								
Fundraising						78,216	-	78,216
Shop operating costs						38,333	-	38,333
Charitable activities								
Unrestricted funds								
Lifelong learning						164,420	40,474	204,894
Healthy living						233	25,825	26,058
Community development						21	11,706	11,727
Community buildings						315,114	179,524	494,638
Central services						257,529	(257,529)	-
Restricted funds								
Lifelong learning						12,939	-	12,939
Healthy living						97,684	-	97,684
Community development						11,930	-	11,930
Endowment fund								
Community buildings						-	-	-
Total staff costs 2024						<u>£976,419</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£976,419</u>
Total staff costs 2023						<u>£1,050,034</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£1,050,034</u>
c) Analysis of support costs								
	Admin Costs £	Property Costs £	Travel Costs £	Finance Costs £	Depreciation £	Governance £	Head Office £	Total 2024 £
Cost of raising funds								
Fundraising	11,113	-	-	1,296	-	-	-	12,409
Shop operating costs	848	7,076	21	-	-	-	-	7,945
Charitable activities								
Unrestricted funds								
Lifelong learning	21,273	-	-	8,937	-	52,161	9,960	92,331
Healthy living	-	-	-	1,268	-	91	6,353	7,712
Community development	934	-	-	466	-	-	2,881	4,281
Community buildings	38,651	344,148	5,819	50,286	650	5,380	44,175	489,109
Central services	12,918	-	-	12,837	-	37,614	(63,369)	-
Restricted funds								
Lifelong learning	30	660	-	-	-	-	-	690
Healthy living	25	1,861	-	(156)	-	89	-	1,819
Community development	1,023	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,023
Community buildings								
Endowment fund								
Community buildings	-	-	-	-	27,009	-	-	27,009
Total support costs 2024	<u>£86,815</u>	<u>£353,745</u>	<u>£5,840</u>	<u>£74,934</u>	<u>£27,659</u>	<u>£95,335</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>£644,328</u>

Central services staff costs and support costs are allocated to each of the programmes dependent on the volume of activity.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

6. EXPENDITURE (continued)	2024 £	2023 £
d) Analysis of governance costs		
Legal, consultancy and professional fees	73,480	83,388
Audit fees	20,175	20,750
Health and safety	1,667	5,777
Companies House	13	13
	<u>£95,335</u>	<u>£109,928</u>

	Staff Costs £	Support Costs £	Other direct Costs £	Total 2023 £
e) Analysis of total expenditure – prior year				
Cost of raising funds				
Fundraising	70,731	10,385	-	81,116
Shop operating costs	37,033	8,491	-	45,524
	<u>107,764</u>	<u>18,876</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>126,640</u>
Charitable activities				
Unrestricted funds				
Lifelong learning	160,592	57,112	11,651	229,355
Healthy living	25,595	6,950	-	32,545
Community development	14,056	4,115	-	18,171
Community buildings	527,883	414,757	231	942,871
	<u>728,126</u>	<u>482,934</u>	<u>11,882</u>	<u>1,222,942</u>
Restricted funds				
Lifelong learning	85,905	28,492	114,922	229,319
Healthy living	76,506	1,901	651	79,058
Community development	51,733	5,254	2,153	59,140
Community buildings	-	-	-	-
	<u>214,144</u>	<u>35,647</u>	<u>117,726</u>	<u>367,517</u>
Endowment Funds				
Community buildings	-	27,009	-	27,009
	<u>-</u>	<u>27,009</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,009</u>
Total expenditure 2023	<u>£1,050,034</u>	<u>£564,466</u>	<u>£129,608</u>	<u>£1,744,108</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

6. EXPENDITURE (continued)							Direct Costs £	Head Office £	Total 2023 £
f) Analysis of staff costs – prior year									
Cost of raising funds									
Fundraising							70,731	-	70,731
Shop operating costs							37,033	-	37,033
Charitable activities									
Unrestricted funds									
Lifelong learning							123,014	37,578	160,592
Healthy living							265	25,330	25,595
Community development							3,594	10,462	14,056
Community buildings							348,090	179,793	527,883
Central services							253,163	(253,163)	-
Restricted funds									
Lifelong learning							85,905	-	85,905
Healthy living							76,506	-	76,506
Community development							51,733	-	51,733
Endowment fund									
Community buildings							-	-	-
Total staff costs 2023							£1,050,034	£-	£1,050,034
Total staff costs 2022							£985,921	£-	£985,921
g) Analysis of support costs - prior year		Admin Costs £	Property Costs £	Travel Costs £	Finance Costs £	Depreciation £	Governance £	Head Office £	Total 2023 £
Cost of raising funds									
Fundraising		8,769	-	-	1,610	-	6	-	10,385
Shop operating costs		1,021	7,470	-	-	-	-	-	8,491
Charitable activities									
Unrestricted funds									
Lifelong learning		19,037	-	-	8,183	-	19,795	10,097	57,112
Healthy living		-	-	-	145	-	-	6,805	6,950
Community development		163	-	-	1,142	-	-	2,810	4,115
Community buildings		28,470	271,479	4,957	40,008	183	21,352	48,308	414,757
Central services		13,198	-	-	13,163	38	41,621	(68,020)	-
Restricted funds									
Lifelong learning		-	1,423	-	-	-	27,069	-	28,492
Healthy living		244	1,416	-	156	-	85	-	1,901
Community development		3,858	1,396	-	-	-	-	-	5,254
Community buildings		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Endowment fund									
Community buildings						27,009			27,009
Total support costs 2023		£74,760	£283,184	£4,957	£64,407	£27,230	£109,928	£-	£564,466

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

7. NET INCOME	2024 £	2023 £
Net income is stated after charging:		
Professional advice insurance including trustee indemnity cover	1,752	1,064
Depreciation	27,659	27,230
Audit fees	20,175	20,750
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
8. STAFF EMPLOYMENT	2024 £	2023 £
Salaries and wages	821,820	880,465
Social security costs	69,980	74,389
Pension costs	62,926	55,526
Other staff costs	21,693	36,150
Redundancy payments	-	3,504
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total Staff Costs	£976,419	£1,050,034
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

1 employee received remuneration for the year in the band £60,000 to £70,000 (2023– 1) and pension costs of £32,516 (2023 – £27,838), were paid in relation to this employee.

The average monthly number of employees during the year was made up as follows:

	2024		2023	
	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time
Community work	27	8	39	8
Central Administration	-	5	-	5
Fundraising	-	2	-	2
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	27	15	39	15
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Full time equivalents	2024	2023
The number of full time equivalent posts is	32.08	39.71
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £96,158 (2023: £91,479).

ASTON-MANSFIELD
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	Land and Buildings £	Furniture and Equipment £	Motor Vehicles £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 April 2023	2,155,448	1,000,191	51,453	3,207,092
Additions	-	2,322	-	2,322
Disposals	-	-	-	-
	<u>2,155,448</u>	<u>1,002,513</u>	<u>51,453</u>	<u>3,209,414</u>
At 31 March 2024				
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2023	539,468	999,184	51,451	1,590,103
Charge for year	27,009	650	-	27,659
Disposals	-	-	-	-
	<u>566,477</u>	<u>999,834</u>	<u>51,451</u>	<u>1,617,762</u>
At 31 March 2024				
Net Book Value				
At 31 March 2024	<u>£1,588,971</u>	<u>£2,679</u>	<u>£2</u>	<u>£1,591,652</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>£1,615,980</u>	<u>£1,007</u>	<u>£2</u>	<u>£1,616,989</u>

All assets are used for charitable purposes.

10. DEBTORS	2024 £	2023 £
Aston Mansfield Charitable Trust	-	11,239
Rent Receivable	52,687	78,263
Other debtors and prepayments	14,116	14,619
	<u>£66,803</u>	<u>£104,121</u>
11. CREDITORS: due within one year	2024 £	2023 £
Aston Mansfield Charitable Trust	2,056	-
Deferred income	49,231	66,121
Taxation and social security	25,892	24,985
VAT payable	525	447
Other creditors and accruals	85,389	97,814
	<u>£163,093</u>	<u>£189,367</u>

12. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH (OUTFLOW)/INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	2024 £	2023 £
Net movement in funds	(66,880)	(131,385)
Depreciation and amortisation	27,659	27,230
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(26,274)	14,029
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	37,318	21,837
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operations	(£28,177)	(£67,882)

13. DIRECTORS/TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION

No director has received any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses (2023: Nil).

14. CHARITY COMMISSION SCHEME

Under a scheme approved by the Charity Commissioners in 1994, the Golden Jubilee Trust merged with Aston-Mansfield and Aston-Mansfield also became the corporate trustee of the Lady Trower Trust, which is the proprietor of the land at Lambourne End and Burges Road, East Ham. Their accounts are merged with those of this charity with effect from 1 October 1993.

15. ENDOWMENT FUNDS	Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Land					
Burges Road East Ham E6	180,000	-	-	-	180,000
Lambourne End	1,240,407	-	(27,009)	-	1,213,398
	<u>£1,420,407</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(£27,009)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>£1,393,398</u>
	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Land					
Burges Road East Ham E6	180,000	-	-	-	180,000
Lambourne End	1,267,416	-	(27,009)	-	1,240,407
	<u>£1,447,416</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(£27,009)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>£1,420,407</u>

Expenditure reflects depreciation of the Lambourne End Property.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

16. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Lambourne End – Lake	2,979	-	-	-	2,979
East End Community Foundation	3,500	9,659	(11,659)	-	1,500
City Bridge Trust	-	42,469	(23,173)	-	19,296
Legacy Income	14,365	-	(590)	-	13,775
Compass - ADHD Support	-	16,672	-	-	16,672
LB Newham	5,000	-	(251)	-	4,749
Partners for Health	-	5,000	(2,263)	-	2,737
Jack Petchey	6,967	1,200	(6,967)	-	1,200
Community Connectors	37,125	94,342	(106,478)	-	24,989
Community Connectors-NHS Narrative Therapy	-	2,802	-	-	2,802
Community Connectors-NHS BAME Men's Project	-	2,000	(260)	-	1,740
	<u>£69,936</u>	<u>£174,144</u>	<u>(£151,641)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>£92,439</u>
	Balance at April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Lambourne End – Lake	2,979	-	-	-	2,979
East End Community Foundation	1,022	9,000	(6,522)	-	3,500
London City Airport	-	-	-	-	-
Community Connectors	-	-	-	-	-
Big Lottery Fund Grant	27,890	-	(27,890)	-	-
City Bridge Trust	6,954	47,985	(54,939)	-	-
Legacy Income	14,365	-	-	-	14,365
London Cycling Grant	3,055	-	(3,055)	-	-
London Community -Response Fund	-	116,183	(79,058)	-	37,125
LB Newham	16,880	-	(11,880)	-	5,000
CAF-ELEVATE	132,169	45,971	(178,140)	-	-
Jack Petchey	5,000	8,000	(6,033)	-	6,967
	<u>£210,314</u>	<u>£227,139</u>	<u>(£367,517)</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£69,936</u>

A full description of each fund is shown at note 20.

17. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
	177,019	1,448,579	(1,510,953)	-	114,645
General Fund	<u>£177,019</u>	<u>£1,448,579</u>	<u>(£1,510,953)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>£114,645</u>

17. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS (continued)

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
General Fund	£141,017	£1,385,584	(£1,349,582)	-	£177,019
	<u>£141,017</u>	<u>£1,385,584</u>	<u>(£1,349,582)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>£177,019</u>

18. NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

Current year

	Endowment Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Unrestricted Fund £	Total 2024 £
Fixed Assets	1,588,972	-	2,680	1,591,652
Current Assets	-	92,439	79,484	171,923
Current Liabilities	(144,672)	-	(18,421)	(163,093)
Inter-fund Loan	(50,902)	-	50,902	-
Net Funds	<u>£1,393,398</u>	<u>£92,439</u>	<u>£114,645</u>	<u>£1,600,482</u>

Previous year

	Endowment Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Unrestricted Fund £	Total 2023 £
Fixed Assets	1,615,981	-	1,008	£1,616,989
Current Assets	-	69,936	169,804	239,740
Current Liabilities	(144,672)	-	(44,695)	(189,367)
Inter-fund Loan	(50,902)	-	50,902	-
Net Funds	<u>£1,420,407</u>	<u>£69,936</u>	<u>£177,019</u>	<u>£1,667,362</u>

19. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions with individuals or trustees during the year (2023- nil).

Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee, although under the control of a different trustee board, is a connected charity with identical objects and having a common administration.

19. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (continued)

During the year the company received a grant of £848,885 (2023- £789,385) from Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust and provided services costing £16,417 (2023 £15,635) to that charity. At the year-end Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust was owed £2,056 by Aston Mansfield (2023 - £11,239 was owed to Aston-Mansfield) as disclosed in notes 10 and 11.

The company is a member of Lambourne End Limited, a charitable company limited by guarantee. During the year the company did not provide any services to the charity (2023 - £ Nil) and no amount was owed to or due from Aston-Mansfield (2023 - £Nil).

20. RESTRICTED FUNDS**Lambourne End Lake**

In 2007 the Environment Agency provided a grant towards the capital cost of providing a lake at Lambourne End. These funds would be utilised once the planning permission is granted and construction work commences on the lake.

East End Community Foundation

A seven- week programme of positive activities for young people during the summer holidays and October half term including targeted sessions for transitional youth and youth at risk of anti-social behaviour. The funding was provided by East End Community Foundation.

City Bridge Trust

Fitter Finances is a four-year program (2023-2027) funded by The City Bridge Foundation and delivered by Aston-Mansfield.

The grant goes towards two part-time workers delivering Aston Mansfield's Fitter Finance programme addressing the financial capability of voluntary and community sector organisations in Newham.

The program aims to enhance the financial stability and sustainability of grassroots organisations dedicated to promoting health and well-being an innovative initiative that strives to uplift and strengthen small charities, community groups and non-profits in London, particularly emphasising those working tirelessly to enhance health and well-being. The project aims to offer valuable support and resources to promote long-term sustainability.

Legacy

An amount of £19k was received with a request for it to be contributed towards a farm project. This income has been restricted to Aston-Mansfield's activities and expenditures at Lambourne End and other Healthy eating/living initiatives.

Compass-ADHD Support

The programme is funded by Compass Wellbeing CIC. The Thrive Project is a 12-month programme for Black and Asian women living in Newham awaiting or have received ADHD diagnosis and treatment via the NHS. The programme provides peer support, three months of one-to-one and one month of group coaching as well as six monthly events and talks to enable the women to understand, accept and thrive whilst living with ADHD.

Community Connectors

The Community Connectors programme is funded through a partnership between Community Links, Aston Mansfield, Mind in Tower Hamlets and Newham, and the NHS East London Foundation Trust (ELFT).

Aston-Mansfield Community Connectors work with service users referred into the program most have a serious mental illness. We continue to develop strong relationships with multi-disciplinary teams (MDTs) who work with primary care networks or PCNs (clusters of GP practices) across Newham. These MDTs are organised into two Community Integrated Mental Health Services (CIMHS) teams, linked to PCNs within Newham. Community Connectors help to identify themes and emerging need, develop further support pathways for service users, and be an important link between local experts and local assets.

Community Connectors work with ELFT as part of the Community Mental Health Transformation Programme. The ethos of the programme is recovery-focused, exploring needs through complexity (rather than diagnosis), a focus on a person's strengths and assets, and the wider determinants of health and wellbeing. We continue to promote this work with an emphasis on ensuring strong awareness/publicity of the value that the role and programme brings to the Mental Health Transformation programme and the people it serves.

20. RESTRICTED FUNDS (continued)

Community Connectors - NHS: Narrative Therapy

The Narrative Therapy Creative Writing Project is a wellbeing project aimed at Black women to utilising narrative therapy and creative writing to document their experience and build resilience. The project allows the women to bond over their writing and lived experiences. The four-week project allows the women to creatively write and reshape their personal narratives. The women receive training and materials to facilitate their writing.

Community Connectors - NHS BAME Men's Project

The project is aimed at adult males in Newham currently receiving support from the community connectors programme. This is a peer support project enabling the men to come together over several weeks to participate in group discussions and art projects.

London Borough of Newham (LBN)

Previously LBN provided £10K towards weight management. Every 6-8 weeks young people referrals receive fresh food boxes and recipe cards for cooking with families at home playworkers will also give fun active support to introduce Healthy eating and cooking habits that influence families' behaviours. Young people are then asked to give feedback and send in videos photos of achievements examples of where they have shopped and cooked a healthy meal on a budget.

Partners for Health

The grant was provided by London Catalyst and Hospital Saturday Fund to improve mental health and wellbeing of 50 Black and Asian men and women using positive psychology and therapeutic and expressive writing interventions. Participants included those who use, have used or have never accessed mental health services. Over the 12-month lifespan of the project, we worked with 60 participants in total providing participants with training, their journals, and warm meals to address the cost of living crisis) and sign-posting anyone who needed it for further help and support.

Jack Petchey

In the prior year, the charity was awarded £10k from Jack Petchey Foundation to deliver workshops, activities and events for young people aged 14+ to support their learning, increase their networks, help build resilience and reduce isolation post pandemic. The one year programme ran until December 2023.

21. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Lambourne End Limited

Aston-Mansfield is a member of Lambourne End Limited and in the event of winding-up it has undertaken to contribute an amount not exceeding £25,000.

22. COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023)

		Endowment Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	2023 Total £
Income	Notes				
Income from donations and legacies					
Donations		-	-	1,617	1,617
Income from charitable activities					
Grants	3	-	227,139	831,154	1,058,293
Project income		-	-	1,024	1,024
Rents and facility hire	4	-	-	485,507	485,507
Income from other trading activities					
Shop sales		-	-	47,131	47,131
Other income	5	-	-	19,151	19,151
Total income		-	227,139	1,385,584	1,612,723
Expenditure					
Expenditure on raising funds					
Fundraising		-	-	(81,116)	(81,116)
Shop operating costs		-	-	(45,524)	(45,524)
Expenditure on charitable activities					
Lifelong learning		-	(229,319)	(229,355)	(458,674)
Healthy living		-	(79,058)	(32,545)	(111,603)
Community development		-	(59,140)	(18,171)	(77,311)
Community buildings		(27,009)	-	(942,871)	(969,880)
Total expenditure	6	(27,009)	(367,517)	(1,349,582)	(1,744,108)
Net income/(expenditure)		(27,009)	(140,378)	36,002	(131,385)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(27,009)	(140,378)	36,002	(131,385)
Fund balances as at 1 April 2022		1,447,416	210,314	141,017	1,798,747
FUND BALANCES AT 31 MARCH 2023		£1,420,407	£69,936	£177,019	£1,667,362

ASTON - MANSFIELD

England & Wales - Charity number 220085

Accounts

ASTON-MANSFIELD
(A company limited by guarantee)
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Charity Registration Number: 220085

Company Number: 48350

ASTON MANSFIELD

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Trustees	Christopher C Keen	(Chairman)
	Rev Paul Regan	
	Noor Choudary	
	Alex Minford	(Deputy Chairman)
	Mahendra Savjani	
	Rehan Akhtar	
	Rev Jeremy Fraser	
	Mr Mohammad Khan	
	Mr Asif Mangera	
	Emily Miles	(Resigned 2 January 2023)
	Dr Joanne Beckmann	
	Tendai Munjayi	(Treasurer appointed 24 January 2023)
Chief Executive Officer	Claire Helman	
Secretary	Eileen Da-Silva	
Bankers	National Westminster Bank Plc	Co-operative Bank Plc
	Ground Floor, Gredley House	80 Cornhill
	1-11 Broadway	London
	Stratford	EC3V 3NJ
	London	
	E15 4WG	
Auditors	Haysmacintyre LLP	
	10 Queen Street Place	
	London	
	EC4R 1AG	
Solicitors	Russell-Cooke	
	2 Putney Hill	
	Putney	
	London	
	SW15 6AB	
Registered Office	Durning Hall	
	Earlham Grove	
	Forest Gate	
	London	
	E7 9AB	

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report and the audited financial statements of the organisation for the year ended 31 March 2023 which have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (revised 2019) and the Companies Act 2006.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the charity are to develop the community wealth of East London and promote a diverse and inclusive society in which all are free to participate. These are achieved through several structured programmes and a range of activities supporting people of all ages, creeds, cultures, and abilities, principally within the London Borough of Newham.

The Newham Context

Newham is an economically vulnerable borough with many residents affected by high London costs but low wages. It has a young and ethnically diverse population with many large families who have been affected by the benefits cap. The long term impacts of the Covid pandemic, coupled with the Cost of Living crisis, in a borough already experiencing high rates of poverty, means that life for the people we work with, and for many of our staff and volunteers, is very difficult. Cost of living pressures have tipped people who were just about managing into poverty.

Key statistics for Newham

- Deprivation in Newham is high, with the overall Index of Multiple Deprivation score in 2019 showing Newham as the 3rd most deprived London borough
- Newham has the second highest child poverty rate in the country, affecting 50% of the borough's children. Most Newham children in "absolute low income households" are members of "working families", meaning one where at least one adult has a job
- 24.5% of Newham residents' jobs are low paid; the average income per household is £19,465 compared to the London average of £29,362
- Average rent represents around 65% of average wages in Newham compared to 30% across the UK
- Newham has the second highest fuel poverty rate in London and the 21st highest fuel poverty rate nationally.
- Structural inequalities: young people and people of colour are disproportionately affected by the cost of living crisis. This is due to structural inequalities that they face impacting them more.

In response to this, we have increased our emotional and practical support for families, expanded our food distribution service, grown our work with vulnerable children, young people and families, and expanded our work on mental health and well-being.

The year in numbers

During the year we have directly delivered services to around 825 children and young people, 62 families and 200 adults with mental health issues, and 17 community organisations. In addition, an estimated 3,800 people have used our centres for sessional activities, and 19 organisations rented office space.

Some 167 children have developed socially, physically, and creatively through a range of play experiences at our After School Club, Holiday Play schemes, and Breakfast Club, Transitional Youth programme and Cooking Collective. The children and young people benefit from improved life-skills, confidence, and self-awareness and parents benefit from affordable wrap around childcare allowing them to participate in work, study, or training.

67 families (244 people) used our Little Manor Supermarket, which provides free food and emotional and practical support to families

We have worked with around 658 young people, who developed skills, confidence, self-esteem, social networks, leadership abilities and resilience through participating in our youth leadership, social action, and employability programmes. Others participated in activities/workshops focused on providing a safe space for young people to be creative and innovative in finding solutions to living well with Covid.

Around 71 community groups/organisations and some 3,800 people have learned, connected, and improved their wellbeing through participating in activities at our community centres, the Aston-Mansfield Community Centre and Durning Hall. In addition, 19 organisations rented office space.

We worked with around 17 community groups/organisations, supporting them with fundraising, key systems and procedures including financial policies, safeguarding, project plans and Monitoring & Evaluation reporting systems.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Strategy

This was the sixth year of implementation of our strategy, Creating the Future, a summary of which is below.

Creating the Future – In summary

VISION

We want to see more children, young people and families in Newham and East London leading happy healthy lives, realising their potential and unlocking their ambition.

MISSION

Using an integrated and community focused approach we will make long lasting change, offering opportunity, community and inspiration to children, families and young people in Newham and East London.

WE WILL

- Offer a continuum of support, through both direct delivery and signposting, from cradle to career. We will nurture relationships, offer opportunity, community and inspiration throughout our provision.
- Build on our current children and youth programmes, collaborating with inspirational and successful individuals and organisations to offer the best opportunities and experiences.
- Continue to develop and seek out partnerships with the community, voluntary, public and business sectors to ensure that our work is relevant, complementary to other service provisions, sustainable and embedded in best practice.
- Give children, young people and families greater opportunities to thrive and flourish, we will share our expertise and methodologies with other organisations to help inform best practice in the sector.

MAJOR CHANGES

- A move away from our focus on community buildings. Instead we will focus on people-oriented service provision and effective signposting.
- Shifting our voluntary sector capacity building work to focus on organisations working with children, young people and families and development of social enterprises.
- Growing our current children and families programme to include a wider age range and to be present in more geographical areas.
- Growing our youth programme. To cater to the wide and varied needs of young people in Newham and East London.
- Introducing a social enterprise aspect to our ecosystem to create more employment and training opportunities, particularly for young people, and to improve the financial sustainability of our work.

WAYS OF WORKING

- Ecosystems: we work with the ecosystem of organisations effecting children, young people and families, and we create a strong organisational ecosystem.
- 'Giving something back': building opportunities for people who have benefitted from our work to become part of the next generation of Aston-Mansfield, for example as volunteers, staff, supporters and ambassadors.
- An integrated approach: understanding that we are one element of people's lives, and that by working with others within their networks we can improve our impact.
- Successful, ambitious, and enterprising: continuing to learn, innovating, and staying relevant.
- Impact led: understanding and measuring the difference that we make and changing and adapting our work to improve our impact.

During 2022/2023, our progress in relation to the strategy included:

- Developing a model and process to transform our governance through the involvement and leadership of young people
- Continuing to expand our work with vulnerable children and families and to build stronger relationships with local schools
- Piloting work on positive psychology, journalling, and mental wellbeing with minoritised communities
- Deepening relationships with health and wellbeing partners, through representation on various health and wellbeing partnerships and initiatives
- Achieving full planning permission for the redevelopment of the Durning Hall site in Forest Gate and preparing to market the site

Children and Family Work

Children's programme

The Little Manor Play Project provides high quality, affordable wraparound care for children in Newham aged five to 12 and comprises breakfast, after school and holiday provision. It also offers emotional and practical support and free food to families. During the year, some 167 children have developed socially, physically, and creatively through a range of play experiences. The children benefit from improved life-skills, confidence, and self-awareness, and parents benefit from affordable wrap around care allowing them to participate in work, study, or training.

Of the 167 children we supported:

- 89 children attended Breakfast Club
- 111 children attended Playscheme
- 58 children attended After School Club
- 27 children attended Transitional Youth
- 20 children participated in the Cooking Collective

67 families (244 family members) used the Little Manor supermarket

Family Support

"The shop is fantastic. I was shocked at what was available. It was so helpful, and I got advice and serving suggestions."

"Coming to the Supermarket was very worthwhile and very helpful, especially during these times as prices are skyrocketing, and I have less to spend. It was nice that we got advice about food, but the staff also told us about food banks and warm homes"

"A staff member gave me a swede. I didn't know what it was or what to do with it. He told me I could mash it with potatoes, put it in soup or make wedges with it. I made wedges with paprika. The kids loved it."

"Since I've been attending the shop because it saves so much money, we have been eating healthier now. There is always lots of fruits and vegetables and I find myself searching for recipes so that I can use all the food up."

Little Manor Supermarket provides food and nutrition advice to families. Each week, every family is invited to book a slot to come and collect free food. The informal, social atmosphere encourages people to feel free to chat and helps to break down barriers with new parents who may feel apprehensive. Food distribution is a vehicle to facilitate conversation with families. We offer food tastings, cooking suggestions for the ingredients on offer, including healthy options and other useful information. The sessions are informal, so as not to patronise people. Leaflets and information posters are readily available for parents to access.

We help families emotionally and practically, offering support and signposting on issues such as housing, debt, benefit applications, mental health and wellbeing, family conflict, difficult behaviour, domestic violence, bullying, online sexual exploitation etc

A family of eight living in a two-bedroom property with concerns about damp and fuel poverty. We arranged to meet with the family to see if there was any immediate response that we could provide. The family collected food and we gave them duvets and sheets. We signposted the family to Our Newham Money, SHINE and Groundworks (Green Doctors) for additional help.

"We couldn't believe it when we were given duvets. It was so unexpected. The staff were really helpful and kind. We were not expecting help with this, we thought it would be a holiday club. The staff are really observant. We were really worried about bills, but we have been speaking to SHINE and they have given some good advice. We are grateful for the input from the staff."

A single mother of three children all under the age of eight had recently moved to the area having fled domestic violence. The family have a social worker and the children are settled in school. Mum was struggling with some challenging behaviour from her 4-year-old. We listened to Mum. She explained what support she already had in place; however, it was evident that she had few family members and friends local to her. We made a referral to Newham's Parenting Befriending Service.

"My children have loved it. They have done so much. The staff made me feel welcome. One day I came to get the children and my youngest was not listening in the corridor. I was telling him to listen. One of the staff asked me if I was ok. We sat and chatted in the café. She said she could help me with a group that could help me. The group sounds good, and I am looking forward to it."

A single Mum with three children was worried about rising food costs and believed she was not entitled to any help because she works. Her income is low. We spoke to Mum and explained that she would be able to continue to access the Supermarket for as long as she needed to. We referred Mum to the Trussell Trust Foodbank. We supported Mum with an application to NHS Healthy Start for a Healthy Start card to help with food costs.

"It's so good that I can continue to collect food after Easter. I work, but food is so expensive now. I've noticed the difference at the checkout. The help from Little Manor has been amazing."

Mum suffers from anxiety and depression. Mum has regular therapy sessions to support with her condition. Dad has an unhealthy relationship with alcohol and drugs. Their daughter struggles to maintain friendships with other children as she often doesn't understand boundaries (both physical and verbal). She craves male attention. There is no immediate danger at present, but this could be an issue in the future as she has little understanding of what healthy relationships look like. She has witnessed domestic violence. We listened to Mum. She explained what support she already had in place, but she was still seeking additional help. We made a referral to Chance UK's LIFT programme - offering gender responsive support to girls who have experienced some form of trauma and/or girls who may be vulnerable to a range of varying factors.

"After coming out of an abusive relationship with my child's father. I have desperately tried to find my daughter access to mental health services as her declining mental health was becoming an increasing concern for me. At primary school, she had access to psychotherapy, but this ended as she transitioned into secondary school and no further intervention had been offered to me. During the holiday playscheme, I expressed my concerns to staff who referred my daughter to Chance UK to a project called Lift. We have an initial meeting set up and I am so grateful for my daughter to be able to access this service, which I feel is exactly what she currently needs. I would have no idea this service existed had I not been signposted to it by Little Manor."

Mum is a single parent who has fled domestic violence. She has 3 children, aged 2 upwards. We listened to Mum. She explained what support she already had in place, but she was still seeking additional help. We assisted Mum to make an application to Healthy Start to get support in obtaining healthy food and milk.

"I go to get food in the week at the centre. I speak with staff, and we talk about my struggle and difficulty to get food for the baby. It is so expensive. They tell me about Healthy Start. I came and used the computer with the staff who helped me to fill the form. This makes me happy. I need the help so much and my son loves it here. He does so much."

Mum is a single parent, and her child has been referred to Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services and is awaiting an appointment. The child has suspected Autism Spectrum Disorder. Mum works full time but has a new manager who is being less flexible about her working hours which is complicating her access to childcare. We noticed that Mum was regularly flustered when collecting her child. Mum would sometimes be late, and we could see that she seemed stressed. One evening, a staff member took her to one side and offered her a glass of water. Mum explained that her new Manager was less flexible than her previous Manager. Work was upsetting her, and she was not sleeping well. We gave Mum the contact details for Newham's Employment Rights Hub.

"I was waiting to be told off for being late, but you saw that something was wrong and that was really nice. I didn't realise that I could access this sort of service here. I called the number you gave me, and they asked me to gather some evidence which I am doing now before I make an appointment. It sounds like they can help with my problems which is reassuring. I feel blessed."

Holiday Programmes

"The thing I remember most is how excited they were on the days they were going and how happy they were when I picked them up. They would always talk about the good times they had and the friends they made. I feel that the activities they do improve their life skills and they are more active. If they were at home, they would be stuck there and not have the opportunity to run around and play like they do at the Centre. The trips they went on were amazing. Loyda showed me a photo of my daughter in the sea up to her chest, splashing around with a big smile. I couldn't believe it; she is not very confident and is normally scared of the water! One more thing, the time they spend at Little Manor is good for me too, as my children's primary carer I now get to spend some time to myself, it's a real relief and break for me." (Anon, Father of three)

"They had an excellent time. They really enjoyed it and talked about it a lot at home. My children found the snake and reptile experience very exciting. I liked that there were nice things going on at the centre as well as the trips out. I would absolutely send them again because they had a great time."

"My daughter does not have a lot of friends, but she made friends here and definitely wants to come back."

"I work full time but cannot afford childcare. I feel guilty that my children must stay at home when I work. My daughter being able to attend gives me peace of mind. I am very grateful that she gets to be active. I have already spoken to the school as I would like them to recommend my her for the summer."

Our holiday programmes include many vulnerable children and their families, supported by funding from the London Borough of Newham/National Government Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF). Our approach is to ensure that HAF children have the same opportunities and experience as families who pay for the service. This year, 31% of the HAF children were declared as having Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, including autism, ADHD, speech & language delay, social communication difficulties and sensory processing difficulties. We try our utmost to accept all that apply for our programme, and the children that attend reflect this ethos.

Most of the HAF children are from minoritised communities: 76% are Black/African/Caribbean/Black British, 10% are White, 7% are Asian/Asian British, and 7% are mixed/multiple ethnic groups.

We provide an exceptional variety of physical, healthy diet and lifestyle, and enrichment activities.

"The meals were really nice, one time we had a make a sandwich challenge. We could buy stuff for our sandwich. It had to look nice and be healthy, I won, and my Mum got a voucher. Then we got to eat it for snack, I liked it a lot."

"One time, I made my own lunch. It was chicken noodle soup and bread we made. It tasted yummy."

"Not having to worry about making lunch for my child is so helpful and saves me money, it's great."

"Summer holidays are usually so expensive for me having to feed 3 children at home. The food they get at Little Manor is, I feel, filling and nutritious."

Children experience a wide range of food-based activities designed to educate them on the benefits of maintaining a healthy diet and lifestyle. Food preparation, quizzes and tastings give participants the opportunity to try new things. Children making their own hot lunches, snacks and packed lunches is very popular. We avoid making cakes, cookies etc. and focus more on recipes that contribute to a healthy balanced meal or snack, such as jambalaya, tacos, omelettes. We also use a Smoothie bike: the children access a stationary bicycle that harnessed their pedalling energy to power a blender.

"I made the tacos. I took some home and everybody tried it. They liked it."

"The smoothie bike! Getting the fruits and putting them on the bike. I was the first and then I helped the other children."

"I liked the food quiz as I got to try different foods, I liked the apricots best. I hadn't had them before. Raw mushrooms are nasty, they are hard on the outside and mushy in the middle and the jackfruit tasted like raw chicken."

"We made our own lunch it was chicken noodle soup and we made bread to go with it. It was goooooood!"

"I liked the cooking activities. I liked making trifle. I put yoghurt and oats in mine. It tasted delicious."

"When I picked up my son, he had a tray of cake, it was called bread pudding. We took it home and it was really nice and then he told me he had the recipe in his bag. So, the next week we tried it, but we spiced it up and it was amazing. Secret recipe now."

"The kids had fun and really enjoyed it. It's a different sort of fun. They were really engaged with the cooking activities and could not stop talking about it when they got home because the fun doesn't stop at the centre. My daughter now wants to help out all the time when we cook at home."

Our holiday programme activities often involve travelling by bus, train or the underground, an enriching experience for many children who do not move far beyond their local area. Our trips enabled the children to see and experience new places and activities their parents/carers may not have the resources to provide. Enriching off-site activities included trips to Adventure Island, Barking playground and splash park, Botany Bay Beach, Boulder Park Climbing, Broadway Theatre, the cinema, Central Park, Creekside Centre, Draper's Fields, Electric Gamebox, Fairplay House, Ferranti Park, Greenwich Park, Jubilee Park, Kew Gardens, Kids World Funfair, Knockhatch Adventure Park, Little Ilford Park, London Wetland Centre, Princess Diana Memorial Fountain, the Science Museum, Skyrun High Ropes, South Park, Stronghold Climbing Centre, Tumbling Bay Playground, Valentine's Park, Victoria Park, Waterworks Fountains, West Ham Park, Zap Space.

We have a wide range of in-house resources available that enable us to ensure that each day spent in our Centre is unique. This year on-site activities included making beanie babies, egg hunt, eggs can fly, making rabbit feet, retro street games, Snakey Sue, painting plant pots, planting beans, making marble mazes, leading and glass painting mirrors, creating hot rocks, Fairground Day activities, watching a mega movie, food bingo, designing tie-dye gift bags, solving a giant playground maze, an animal catwalk, making bespoke tote bags, constructing a cardboard city, roller skating, bubble play with art, a street dance workshop, bug hunting and identification and a science showcase with several stations including experiments demonstrating surface tension, centrifugal force and chemical reactions.

"My favourite trip was the funfair. I went on all the rides lots of times."

"I liked the cinema. It was about Mr Fox, Mr Wolf, and Mr Tarantula. It was funny and I had popcorn."

"I liked the snakes. My Nan has two pythons, so I am used to them."

"The caving at Fairplay House was fun. I was a bit scared, but not the most scared. We went through a dark hole with spiders."

"We did football training. We were shown that you need to move into a space when we wanted to get the pass and not to be selfish with the ball."

"I fell off the climbing wall, but I wasn't hurt. I got really high up. I tried all the high bits."

"I liked the climbing, I got to climb up the wall and I've never climbed up a wall before. I got to the top."

"I liked roller skating, but I fell on my butt because it was my first time. I had quads first, but they were hard then I had in-line and they were easier."

"We went to this place on a coach, and I got to jump on the pillows. It was like flying. Then we played in the giant fort playground and the indoor playground. The drop slide was cool because it was dark, and I was ooooh! like that and I got scared but it was good."

"They had an excellent time. They really enjoyed it and talked about it a lot at home. My children found the snake and reptile experience very exciting. I liked that there were nice things going on at the centre as well as the trips out. I would absolutely send them again because they had a great time."

Children participate in at least 60 minutes of physical activity during every session. On-site activities include traditional sports such as badminton, football, cricket, scoop ball, handball, frisbee, basketball, hockey, and rounders, as well as group games specifically aimed at developing teamwork. Many of our off-site trips include physical activity through interactive play, adventure play, games, and outdoor pursuits. We provide a wide variety of physical activities that offer children opportunities to undertake new challenges, many of which improve self-esteem and build confidence.

"I really like playing handball, we used to play it at school, but year ones knocked our class ball over the fence."

"I think dodgeball is the best. You get to throw balls at each other, it's fun and I'm good at catching. I like fire, water, plane. I can get some exercise and run around."

"I like crash mat rounders, quick cricket, petrol stations. Fire, water, plane is my best. I can't play it at home as I live in a small flat."

The Manor (Transitional Youth Project)

The Manor is a project for young people in the early years of secondary education aged 12-14, aimed at building confidence, resilience, citizenship, independence, and diverse young leaders. Young people have a direct input in creating the rules and parameters required to ensure the smooth running of the programme; they are creators, not just consumers, which helps them to build ownership of the programme. Activities include developmental workshops, volunteer tasks, self-led activities, and off-site trips. Participants also volunteer at Little Manor Supermarket.

During the summer holidays, 25 young people participated in The Manor, all of whom were from minoritized communities. The programme included a 3 day residential and 78 activities. The group had diverse needs and included young people with glaucoma and uveitis, living in a household with historic domestic violence, living with their family of 2 parents and 4 siblings in a two-bedroom flat with no garden, concerns about their body image, autism who had recently run away from home, parents had recently separated and was suffering with anxiety, being bullied online, suspected ADHD, social engagement outside of school solely through social media, dyspraxia, recently moved in with her Dad after her Mum had hit her and thrown her out, newly arrived in the country from Romania, aunt had recently committed suicide, speech & language delay, sensory processing difficulties and social communication difficulties.

From evidence provided by 21 young people, we know that:

90% of young people felt that their physical health or wellbeing had improved, and that they were more physically active

All participants said that they had enjoyed most of the physical elements of the programme and that they would participate again. 19 participants said that if it wasn't for The Manor they would have had much less exercise during the Summer and therefore believed that the programme had contributed to improved physical Wellbeing. One young person felt that their health had not improved but had been maintained because he usually cycles to school and doesn't get to do this in the holidays.

"I think my health has improved because we did so much. I don't go out a lot. I think I would have been at home on TikTok if I wasn't here." •

"For some reason I have more energy in the morning. When I get up to come here it is easy. When I get up for school, it isn't."

"I think I have bigger muscles since lifting the boxes for the supermarket – see!"

19 participants believed that they would have spent a lot more time indoors if they were not attending the project. They felt that going out was "healthier".

12 participants said that, except for P.E. in school, they engaged in very little physical activity.

"I slept the whole day after the weekend away. I've never done so much moving." •

"Sometimes we were being physical, and I didn't even realise. Like the beach trip. I didn't think it counted as physical activity until the debrief time. It was just fun."

"I loved the Toca Social. The caving was one of the funniest parts and was also very cool because it was my first time in a cave."

"I'm a sporty boy so doing sporty things was extremely fun. From caving to the beach where I swam in the sea. Everything was really fun, so this gets 10/10."

86% of young people reported an increased awareness and understanding of other cultures

11 young people attended Catholic schools which they claimed were a little diverse in terms of race but obviously not very diverse in terms of religion. These young people felt that the programme provided a more culturally diverse environment. Young people told us that discussions during The Privilege Walk and Heard, Seen, Respected had highlighted differences in culture that they were unaware of, and that they had an increased understanding of cultural diets because of working in the supermarket.

*"I worked with ***** in the supermarket. He is Muslim. I knew they didn't eat pork, but I didn't know why until he told me. We were separating out the meat delivery for the freezer."*

"The privilege task made it interesting to see how such everyday things that you think are minor can change people."

"My graffiti tag was my name with a headscarf to represent Yoruba, which I had to explain to the person sat next to me."

86% of young people reported improved mental health or wellbeing

All young people felt that being at the programme was less stressful than being at school. One young person with autism commented that this was a place where he felt safe and accepted. Young people felt that the programme took the stress out of planning fun time with friends.

"Like, sometimes you wanna go out, but then you just end up at Westfield and my Mum doesn't like me going there a lot or you just end up gaming at home."

*"I'm going to the same school as ***** in September. He's told me loads about the school that I didn't know. I know who to avoid and the annoying teachers and it's good to know and be more ready."*

"I have a lot of hospital appointments. I don't really think about them when I am here."

Young people felt happy and excited about future sessions. They spoke of recognising the benefits of having some quiet time and felt that they got these opportunities during the art sessions.

One young person had attempted to run away from home in the week before the programme started. His Mum had told us that this was because he was worried that she couldn't afford to look after both him and his sister. He wrote *"I did not think that she had enough money. I got to speak to the money management man. I then spoke to my Mum and realised that she is doing the right things with money and that she can look after us both."*

"I think that knowing more things helps my mental health. Knowing what to do in a situation. So with the first aid, if someone got stabbed I think I would know what to do now and because of this I would worry about it less."

100% of young people felt that their social networks had improved

Young people felt that attending the residential helped to build friendships. They noted that many of the outdoor pursuit activities, such as the giant swing and pioneering, required teamwork. These activities helped to develop friendships as often the staff put the young people into teams that encouraged them to mix. Between them, the young people came from 15 different secondary schools. Every young person reported making at least one new friend from a different school.

*"***** is in my school the year above me. I've never spoken to her before. We did the children's challenge together. The children were hard work, but it was funny."*

*"Me and ***** and ***** walked to the bus stop together after sessions. I don't even get the bus. We just chat."*

Aged six, Sandor suffered a head injury. In the years to follow, this injury has led to him developing uveitis, glaucoma, and unexplained inflammation in his body. Currently, Sandor attends Great Ormond Street Hospital and Moorfield's Eye Hospital twice a week. Consultants are trying to manage the inflammation and save Sandor's sight. Part of the treatment for the inflammation includes Sandor taking steroids which affect his mood and have led to weight gain. Sandor was apprehensive about joining the programme. His Mum had informed us that lately Sandor was becoming angrier and more frustrated with his condition, regularly requesting an operation to rectify the situation. He had become annoyed at school where he had been made to sit at the front of the class with the poorly behaved students to enable him to see the board. Mum also told us that because of his weight gain, Sandor no longer enjoyed sport. We observed Sandor throughout the summer. Staff encouraged him to attempt all activities at the residential as they offered great opportunities to explore new sports. While Sandor struggled with some of the aerial activities, he tried them all. As the summer progressed, Sandor happily engaged in all activities. Mum informed us that Sandor's mood at home also improved throughout the summer *"He talks more about the activities than the appointments. And he says he doesn't feel inhibited in any way. This really reassuring for me."* We continue to support the family who regularly visit the supermarket.

*"I really like going to the Manor it's much fun but I sometimes I get very anxious, especially when it's loud and I feel that I must get away. I know that I shouldn't do that, but I can't help it. They don't tell me off when it happens, they sort of follow me and calm me down. Now we've got a plan and I can say when I'm getting anxious, and we can talk about it and if I want, I can go somewhere quiet. I like having a plan for anxiousness. Also, I always think the others are going to be angry with me, but the staff show me that they're not. Toca Social was new to me since I don't play football and going to the Amusement Park I hardly ever get to do. Working with the little kids was nice, the giant big swing was very fun and scary, and I've never done that before. I really liked the money management workshop and the first aid workshop as I'm into those things. I liked the first aid practical stuff. The caving was good, I didn't want to go in. I was defending myself because caves put you down. ***** helped me and I followed him in, and I managed to get down and I was fine. I did all the cave trails. I was quite proud of myself for facing my fear. I look at people now and wonder if they know what makes them privileged."*

Youth Work

658 young people participated in our youth programmes during the year, across 4 programmes and our Young Facilitators model.

We received 42 responses from our annual young people survey:

93% feel more connected to their community and expanded their social and professional networks
91% significantly developed their leadership skills
94% indicated that being involved in A-M activities significantly reduced loneliness and isolation
100% of respondents would recommend A-M activities to others

Their top 5 concerns were

Mental health 77%
Money 60%
Employment opportunities 57%
Education 55%
Family issues 48%

98% felt that we are inclusive as an organisation
93% felt their opinions mattered in shaping activities/services
96% are extremely satisfied with our services

Young Facilitators (YFs)

Our youth work model includes employing young people (aged 18 to 25) to work as paid young facilitators, in developmental roles, usually lasting around 12 to 18 months. With support and training from more experienced youth workers, the young facilitators play a key role in engaging and supporting young people across all our youth programmes whilst co-producing and delivering activities, workshops, and learning days.

"During my son's time as a YF, I have noticed that he has increased in confidence and is able to take more responsibility, especially with managing his time and lots of workload. This has transferred to his full-time job as he is now able to keep on top of his work and is less stressed. The confidence gained has also allowed him to be less awkward in social situations. I have noticed that he seems happier now and is more willing to share his time with his family and talks to us more about what is happening with his life, and he always talks about you guys! It's so nice and I think he really loves being with you all."

Youth for Youth

"Joining the Aston-Mansfield youth action this year was the best decision I ever made. I first joined in March 2022 after seeing an Instagram post advertising it. I have learned to do many opportunities such as teamwork, money management, networking, organisation and how to deliver a good social action project. Throughout my time in the Aston-Mansfield youth group I have achieved and gained full confidence, made new friends by interaction with them. This made me feel more new and extroverted because in the past I was very shy and needed friends and my old youth groups got cancelled or didn't resume any more. Aside that I gained a skill being adventurous and trying different things during the residential in July and doing new activities such as going snowboarding, riding an electric boat in Paddington etc. Overall I positively enjoyed the Aston-Mansfield Youth 4 Youth project and I encourage anyone to join!! Because I met some nice and wonderful people, gained new skills, and did new experiences."

Youth4Youth (Y4Y) is a leadership development scheme for young people from around Newham. A diverse group of young people from across Newham who may not ordinarily meet or befriend one another come together for a series of team building and skills development sessions. As part of their journey toward becoming a change agent in their community, young people plan and deliver events and campaigns at different scales growing their confidence, experience, and networks.

Y4Y is co-produced with young people, and we continuously work alongside young people through focus groups and consultations to determine what our Learning Days should look like and what skills/additional training the young participants require. The Young Facilitators play a key role in engaging and supporting each cohort of young people whilst also designing and implementing the best way to co-produce with the young participants on the project.

We received 48 applications for Y4Y of which 36 were recruited onto the programme with 31 as regular participants and the main Changemakers. The young participants signed up through open recruitment and marketing as well as through referrals from youth organisations, individuals and recommendations made by Changemakers from the previous cohort of the programme.

We had a diverse and motivated core group of Changemakers from across Newham. With representation from young males and females from Asian backgrounds (Bangladesh, Indonesia, Philippines, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka) as well as representation from Black, White and Mixed Heritage (Kenya, Jamaica, Somali, Nigeria, England, Wales) We also had 1 Egyptian female and one male from Turkey.

With a diverse group, we found an incredible range of aspiration and personal experiences amongst the young people, however this has also meant that the skill level and confidence across the group was at different levels. To ensure we delivered learning days that are accommodating to both the delivery of the social action projects and the development of the young people we used decision making mechanisms to establish the content of all our learning days which were co-produced and delivered with the Young Facilitators. We started off with an induction to the Programme where the young people were introduced to Social Action and encouraged to complete a skills audit. The learning days explored communication skills, team building and leadership skills, understanding social change, identifying key themes young people are passionate about, looking at different types of social action and the platforms used to execute them both virtually and face to face, project management, events management, budgeting as well as marketing and promotion. We ensured the learning days were fun and interactive, which encouraged the young people to practice their team working skills through group activities and challenges. To prepare the Young Facilitators to conduct their roles effectively and establish a good working relationship with each other, they went on an overnight training residential where they received training in teamwork, communications, facilitation skills, conflict management and project planning to equip them with the skills to deliver interactive, informative, and engaging learning days. The Changemakers also participated in a training residential, bonding as a team and creating a sense of unity and shared purpose and planning for their social action projects.

This year, we introduced mini social action projects. The young participants were given 4 weeks and a budget of £100 to plan and deliver a social action project of their choice on a much smaller scale compared to the budget and delivery of their main social action projects. At this point the project management, budgeting, marketing, and promotion learning days had not been delivered as we believed the young people would benefit from the opportunity to use their initiative and implement their understanding of social action, team building and communication skills they have acquired from the learning days delivered thus far. We anticipated that the process of planning and delivering mini social action projects would expose the Changemakers to challenges and hurdles they may have overlooked, anticipating issues, and preparing contingency plans for the delivery of their main social action project and essentially helping them grasp a better practical understanding of project management, budgeting, and marketing.

The Changemakers were split into three groups. One group organised a self-care event for young girls, to provide girls with practical tools and strategies to recognise the importance of taking care of their physical, emotional, and mental well-being. 12 girls aged 14 -18 participated in a self-care event including skin care, face masks, hair oils, nail therapy, meditation, music, movie, food, and discussions led by the changemakers on mental health and well-being. The participants were encouraged to speak about some of their struggles and current coping mechanisms, whilst giving them tips on what they could do to make positive changes in their lives and become advocates for their own well-being. The girls thoroughly enjoyed the event and learned a lot about the importance of self-care. 3 of the girls who attended were Muslim and appreciated the girls only environment as they were able to take off their head scarves and feel comfortable whilst taking part in the activities.

A second group fundraised for Ukraine to help provide much needed humanitarian aid to those affected by the conflict. The Changemakers wanted to respond and raise awareness about the impact of the conflict and encourage the local community to help the thousands of people who have been displaced from their homes and are in dire need of basic necessities such as food, shelter, and medical care. The Changemakers took a stall at the Forest Gate Community Festival and raised £262 pounds and were congratulated by members of the community for raising awareness of the conflict in Ukraine. There were a couple of instances where members of the public were hostile to the group, from those interactions, we developed the skills of conflict management and having difficult conversations.

The third group addressed the potential risks of holding onto negative thoughts and how it could have a profound impact on mental health including increased stress and anxiety, depression as well as decreased self-esteem. They delivered a campaign to encourage people to let go of some of the negative thoughts or feelings they were holding onto. People had the opportunity to either write down these thoughts on dissolvable paper, which they then watched dissolve in a bowl of water, or to write on ordinary paper and give to the Changemakers to share on social media, encouraging others to express their negative thoughts to help them release tension and process any associated emotions. The Changemakers also gave out handouts highlighting the benefits of journaling to help overcome feeling lost and trapped within negative thoughts. The Changemakers offered flowers and chocolates as an incentive and thank you to participants who engaged with their social action project. They received lots of positive feedback and encouragement from members of the public, were told their campaign was helpful and many of the participants who were new to journaling acknowledged how it could be a powerful tool for self – reflection, stress reduction and personal growth. Over 60 people engaged with the campaign.

For their main social action project, the Changemakers brainstormed what social action causes they were keen to work towards. Through the process of presenting, voting and process of elimination the young people decided they wanted to work towards a fun, engaging and informative Culture Fest event to celebrate the diversity of different cultures and promote cultural understanding and appreciation among people from different backgrounds. They brought people of all ages together and provided a platform for cultural expression

through food, art, music, and other forms of cultural expression. Activities included: Food and drinks from different cultures to encourage people to explore and try new foods and showcase the diverse culinary traditions of different countries and cultures; Live cooking stations to educate participants about traditional dishes and ingredient combinations; Cultural games e.g. Carrom Board (India), Mancala (Ethiopia), Turkish Checkers, Go (Japan/China) Monopoly (English) Connect 4 (American); Music from different cultures; Cultural Quiz with prizes and info sheets with interesting facts across the word; Arts and Crafts with a cultural emphasis e.g. colouring books with monumental buildings from different cultures, tote bag designing with African tribal pattern stencils, lantern building with Indian mandala designs; Henna Tattooing; Arabic Calligraphy workshop; Cake Decorating with flag templates and coloured icing. It was important to the Changemakers that this event was intergenerational, and they encouraged people to come with their families and friends.

They Changemakers decided that to stand out on the day and add more ambiance to the event they would all dress up in traditional clothing from their own cultural backgrounds. They then added an interactive and educational element to this by creating a human bingo sheet which encouraged participants to go around and speak to the Changemakers to identify the name of their attire, find out what country it represented, and some interesting information associated with it as well as the name of the Changemaker wearing it. This was a fun way of getting the participants to interact with the Changemakers and find out more about their social action cause whilst learning about cultural attire.

The culture fest was very successful with a total of 224 members of the community attending of which 84 were adults, 61 were young people and 79 were children. 100% of the participants stated they enjoyed the event and felt it was a great opportunity for people to connect, share stories and experiences whilst celebrating cultural diversity and that they would attend more events celebrating culture and diversity. 86% stated they felt there was a need for events like this to celebrate differences, promote inclusion and encourage unity.

"The culture fest event was such a fun way to spend the day. I loved trying new foods and drinks and meeting people from different backgrounds, it was the first time I had henna done and I am so excited to go and show my friends how pretty it looks".

"I loved how inclusive the culture fest event was. I even found snacks from Lithuania which is where I am from. It felt like a celebration of all cultures, and I appreciated the effort the young people made to showcase customs especially with their outfits, it was interesting finding out where they were from and the names of their clothing".

"I really enjoyed designing my own tote bag- I will be using it as my shopping bag as of today I used beautiful tribal stencils and I feel this bag represents me and my identity as a British-Nigerian girl, I also loved the live cooking station, we made Indonesian Satay chicken and it was delicious, the flavours were new to me, I think I need to go and explore an Indonesian restaurant now"

"My children and I had a great time at the culture fest, we tried lots of different food and snacks and we met lots of lovely families through the cultural games activity. It was a great way to broaden our perspective and gain a better understanding of different cultures and traditions. Please let us know if you hold anymore events like this".

The Changemakers also decided to put on a Life After Covid Exhibition to showcase a range of images depicting the ways in which society has changed and adapted in response to the pandemic. They wanted to include images that capture the resilience, hope, and creativity of people during this time, including photographs of empty streets and public spaces during lockdown, people wearing masks and social distancing, virtual gatherings and innovative ways people have found to connect with one another. The Changemakers captured these images themselves and they also opened it out on social media and targeted nearby schools to encourage younger aged young people (14+) to join and send in photos. The photo exhibition was received well with 43 people attending, and lots of positive feedback.

"The images had me reflecting on just how much progress we have made in response to the pandemic, I feel a sense of closure and hope for the future".

After the Changemakers delivered their girl only self-care event as part of their mini social action projects, they realised there was a demand for girls' projects. An all-female team of Changemakers wanted to create a safe and supportive environment where young women aged 16 -21 could develop confidence and self-esteem, build resilience and aspirations whilst feeling comfortable expressing themselves and their opinions. The Changemakers planned and delivered a series of weekly workshops and sessions over a period of 10 weeks where they empowered and supported young women to fulfil their potential and encourage 'boss behaviour' through the following activities: Love letter to me; Journaling; Female empowerment guest speaker; Vision Boarding; Positive self-image; Self-care; Female education; Nutrition and well-being; Self-defence class; Language of emotion and finding your voice; Talent Show and socials. The project was designed to work with a closed group of participants and had a total of 21 young women who attended at least one session. The participants thoroughly enjoyed the project and are keen to come back if the project continues.

The Changemakers were passionate about breaking down barriers and intergenerational activities and planned a community Iftar with the purpose of promoting interfaith harmony, sharing food, and celebrating the spirit of Ramadan and sharing the importance and reasons behind fasting during Ramadan. 76 people participated, and people who were fasting commented that it was wonderful to break fast with the larger community; members of the community who did not know much about Ramadan thought that it was a valuable experience.

"I know so many people who fast every year in Forest Gate and you sort of know why but not really. This has been a lovely night, and everyone has been so generous, I'm so full but now know what a beautiful thing it is to fast and why Muslims do it"

Impact

96% of the Changemakers reported improved confidence with 4% remaining neutral. When probed further the 4% who remained neutral in the evaluation form stated that they had previously taken part in leadership and social action projects thus already had high confidence when joining Youth4Youth. Every participant reported an increased sense of leadership, and increased understanding of how they can make change in their own lives and those of others.

98% of the participants reported an increased ability to better cope with adversity. The 2% who did not report this increase were attendees and beneficiaries of the Self Care, Let It Go and Boss Behaviour social action projects they fed back that they felt better equipped with dealing with their mental health adversities after learning about the importance of self-care and journaling.

77% of the young people who completed the end of project evaluation reported improved self-esteem, when it came to believing in their own abilities and unlocking their potential. The 13% who did not experience this improvement were participants in the Culture Fest event and fed back that by celebrating cultural diversity and connecting with people that had shared experiences and identity provided them with a sense of belonging and connection to their community.

100% of young people felt their social networks had improved. Additionally, by seeking out community partners for projects, attending socials, engaging with participants attending their social action projects and working with different staff members from Aston Mansfield (Comms Team and Youth Team) their networks expanded significantly. 21 Young people who attended the social action event/projects also fed back improved social networks having engaged with new people and forming new connections which has led to them signing up to new opportunities.

Elevate – Employability Programme

"Since joining Aston Mansfield, I have developed my confidence greatly and feel more comfortable in interacting with a new crowd. I used to go along to things but not really participate actively but would still enjoy it. It's hard to hide during sessions at Aston Mansfield and even though at first I would be so shy to say something I feel a lot more comfortable in voicing my opinion. We did Action Learning Set and for the first time I spoke about something really personal to me and I am still surprised that I did it, but it was really helpful, and I have been able to ask for help since then. I've also learnt to take on more responsibilities and managing time and workload. The experience has developed my soft skills and I've also vastly improved my network. I've also gained financial literacy skills and have been able to apply this to my life".

"I really enjoyed coaching and found it beneficial for my personal development. Due to understanding myself more, my particular strengths and being able to visualise these using the VIA character strength method that my coach used, I feel motivated to nurture the other strengths and virtues that I sometimes lack in. My coach really listened to me, and I felt like I built a genuine rapport with her that allowed me to be vulnerable and evaluate where I am in my life right now. Because I was given this opportunity, I feel like my capacity to think about myself and my position in the lives of others has increased. Coaching has helped me reflect on my time at Aston Mansfield and how I will use the experiences and skills I have learnt during my time here in all my future endeavours".

Elevate helps young people (aged 16 to 24) with limited or no work experience to build their employability skills, confidence, resilience, wellbeing, and networks through an interactive and fun journey, making them more attractive to employers.

Elements include: Development Days: 'Experiencing Assessment Centres', 'Interview Skills and Techniques' 'Confidence at work' 'Exploring Sectors'; Positive psychology coaching sessions on how to build confidence and increase resilience; Work Experience; Internships; Networking Events with peers and professionals; Employment opportunities

190 young people directly benefited from participating in Elevate, and 80 young people benefited indirectly.

Young people improved their skills and knowledge for employment. Networking days and Development Days really helped young people to improve their understanding of what skills employers look for. They were able to develop skills that would help them stand out in interviews/assessment centres, feel confident at work when it comes to telephone/email and general office etiquette, professionally brand themselves on social platforms like LinkedIn and Twitter and develop their CV's by exploring their own key skills and showcasing them through their everyday life/work experiences and hobbies in a concise and professional manner. The paid internships, work experience and coaching improved their motivation, attitude, and behaviours. Many young people lacked confidence and felt demotivated as they faced rejection and struggled to find employment. Through Elevate, they received bespoke advice, made an income, and gained lots of skills and experience boosting their employability potential.

Through Elevate we made a positive impact on the wider community by supporting the development of young people and local community organisations. We worked with community organisations within our networks who agreed to host 3 month internship placements. It was a valuable experience for both the organisations, young people, and members of the local community. The organisations increased their capacity and collaborated and co-created with young people. Organisations were encouraged to attend our networking events which led to the formation of new partnerships and new opportunities to collaborate and share resources. They increased their visibility and brand awareness with potential partners, funders, service users and volunteers, helping them amplify their message and reach new audiences.

Elevate helped us to build and strengthen our relationship with stakeholders and partners. We were able to offer 2 additional paid internship placements funded by an investment banking organisation who really valued the work we were doing and wanted to support the development of young people. We increased our visibility and gained the trust of new young people we have not worked with before who were also keen to join some of the other programmes we have on offer. By offering work experience and hosting a few internship placements ourselves we supported young people to develop a range of valuable skills, including communication, teamwork, problem-solving, and time management. These skills contributed to increased productivity and efficiency within Aston-Mansfield.

Just Connect

Through Just Connect we continued the impactful work of the Wireless Programme which was piloted during the Covid 19 lockdowns and restrictions. With the effects of the Pandemic still lingering, young people in London were continuing to live complex and uncertain lives. Implementing Just Connect which encompassed everything from learning and training to group coaching/action learning sets and one to one support, as well as social activities had a really positive impact on both the young people and the staff team delivering the project. The project was successful in bringing together a range of young people from different parts of London who may not have otherwise met and connected.

Through Just Connect we re-engaged with Wireless participants, and also engaged over 60 new young people. By taking a youth led approach through the recruitment of young facilitators and utilising the recommendations from the young participants at the end of every month, we were able to co-produce and iterate monthly programmes of activities that were youth led and relevant to the needs of young people. 137 young people participated in Just Connect.

Our Young Facilitators played a vital role not only in engaging participants online and in person but also in providing regular check-ins with the participants. They supported the programme through co-design, recruitment, engagement, check ins and facilitating learning sessions, socials, and Action Learning Sets. Many of the participants of the programme were inspired by them and would ask us if they could apply for a Young Facilitator role to work across some of our other programmes. The Young Facilitator model played a significant role in the retention of the participants.

ASTON-MANSFIELD

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

We used a hybrid approach (virtual and face to face) to offer an array of accessible activities including

25 Learning and Training sessions:

- How to deal with stress and anxiety
- How to prepare for College/University
- Introduction to Coding
- Resilience Building
- Healthy Eating and Cooking classes
- Money Management
- Networking Skills
- Communication Skills
- Teamwork Skills
- CV Writing
- Driving Theory and Highway Code
- Conflict Resolution

45 Social Activities:

- Networking events
- Virtual quiz challenges
- Virtual gaming sessions
- Virtual movie nights
- Escape Rooms
- Ice Skating
- Karaoke
- Sports games
- Fitness Classes
- Dance Classes
- Virtual Arts and Crafts
- Virtual dinner party
- Self-care party
- Virtual Self care
- Cultural food tours
- Museum exhibitions

Young person support (1-2 -1 and group):

- Regular WhatsApp 1-2-1 sessions with a youth worker
- Dedicated sessions to check in with a youth worker (open forum)
- Signposting support services
- Action Learning Sets

We exceeded our target number of participants by ensuring all our sessions had an element of fun and creativity, this helped us retain the young people and encouraged them to attend multiple sessions and bring their friends. We learned that socials and competitive challenges are key for young people to remain engaged with the project and offer a means of forging more meaningful relationships with each other and staff. Although lockdowns were a thing of the past, there were still young people that were not as mobile and preferred to access activities/socials online. We had to come up with ice breakers/games/challenges we could do online and in person at the same time, and to utilise additional digital platforms to make brainstorming and discussions fun during learning and training sessions. We turned activities which young people would normally do to socialise with each other into a virtual hangout to ensure accessibility.

The Action Learning Sets were a great opportunity for young people to grow their self-belief and confidence and identify and overcome barriers in their life through thought provoking open questions in a safe and closed 'set'. There were a total of 2 cohorts of 5 -6 young people meeting regularly over an eight week period.

Our three pronged approach of learning and training, emotional support (1-2-1 and group) and social activities offered young participants:

-Individual and group opportunities to receive advice and guidance on any issues or concerns they had such as mental health, social isolation, educational concerns, family and life at home issues, financial difficulties, or employment concerns.

-Intentional, productive, and constructive engagement which helped young people build on their interpersonal, employability and life skills.

-Opportunities to build positive relationships with their peers and community to overcome isolation and loneliness which ultimately helped prevent risky behaviours such as estate based gangs and antisocial behaviour.

-Access to social activities that many young people considered as “unaffordable” and “out of their budget” giving young people an opportunity to try new experiences and discover new interests with their peers. We offered fun and joy at a time where many of them had eliminated social activities from their agenda to focus on employment opportunities.

-Participation in the design, delivery, and evaluation of the programme.

-Safe and supported space to develop confidence, resilience, and mental wellbeing through self-care, stress relief and coping mechanism activities.

Reduced isolation and loneliness

During some of the 1-2-1 support sessions many young people told us that they were lonely. Some mentioned that their friendship dynamics had changed after lockdown restrictions had been lifted, other young people said they were struggling to make new friends having left university and moved back to London. This left them feeling isolated as they tried to navigate their way through employment in a predominantly older environment.

46% of young people said their isolation and loneliness had reduced at the end of Just Connect. Having regular activities over a 6 month period enabled them to build organic relationships with their peers, young facilitators, and other members of staff. Although the social activities played a huge part in this young people fed back in their surveys and 1-2-1 follow ups that the group coaching also helped them build stronger relationships as they were able to experience the vulnerability of other young people who were also experiencing some of the same issues. Young people also fed back that they have organised social activities outside of the programme with some of their new friends.

Broader perspectives through new experiences and thinking

As we continued to co-produce our monthly timetable of activities with the young facilitators and service users it became apparent that most of the young people were keen to experience new things that they otherwise may not experience due to lack of awareness, lack of finances or lack of confidence. We introduced them to concepts such as unconscious bias and explained how the way a person thinks can depend on their life experiences and sometimes, they have beliefs and views about other people that might not be right or reasonable. We invited the young people to international food tours to encourage them to try food from different cultures and learn about the history of different traditional dishes, and we encouraged international movie nights. Led by young people's voices, we offered opportunities for young people to debate inequalities, create solutions and innovative ideas to cross barriers. We also took some young people to the theatre – as some had mentioned they had never been due to how expensive it is, and they were worried not many people from minoritised communities attended.

69% of young people felt they had broadened their perspectives through new experiences and thinking.

Increased skills and knowledge

96% of the participants that attended the programme stated they had gained increased skills or knowledge through all three elements of the programme – learning and training, social activities, and action learning sets. Young people improved their life skills and employability prospects and strengthened their CVs through a variety of activities. We worked with them to identify the skills and knowledge they need to flourish at work, home, socially or in education settings. We signposted young people to other organisations and opportunities to expand their networks and learning.

Being valued and recognised

87% of the participants left feeling heard, valued, and recognised. We ensured the programme was youth led to help us focus and identify the direct needs of young people, we obtained feedback through surveys and focus groups to ask the participants what activities should go on the programme every month, how we could improve our services and whether there was anything they wanted to support us with – they felt valued and included in the process.

Resilience and mental wellbeing

Along with self-care sessions and encouraging young people to take an active role in our programme we will also helped increase resilience by connecting young people to vital services particularly around managing bereavement and trauma due to the impact of the pandemic. The programme helped reduce anxiety in young people and supported them to self-manage providing a much-needed space for young people to come together to discuss 'hot topics, issues and concerns'.

72% of participants felt they had increased their resilience and mental wellbeing. Through one to one support and peer on peer support from the young facilitators combined with lots of wellbeing activities such as self-care, yoga, fitness, arts and crafts, and stress management sessions we saw shifts in the confidence of participants when it comes to dealing with adversity. The programme encouraged young people to become more resilient through the problems and hurdles they encounter and by preparing for setbacks.

Growth in self-belief / confidence

Young people told us that they lack direction, with the most vulnerable lacking a significant adult in their lives to guide and support them. The programme helped increase the personal development and aspirations of young people by offering career advice and guidance, and support to overcome their next challenges particularly through Action Learning Sets. Young people were introduced to positive role models and coaching to support them to reach their potential.

89% of participants reported an increase in confidence and self-belief. The feedback from the Action Learning Sets evaluation highlighted that they played a significant role in giving some of the young people a real voice to share some of their most vulnerable thoughts and feelings. They were encouraged to navigate their thoughts and issues and come up with their own solutions with the support of prompting open questions from their peers. They realised they were not alone with some of the issues and concerns they were facing, and they now had more faith and confidence in their own abilities to make positive changes in their own lives and those of others due to this new support group they could now access.

Other young people fed back they were more willing to try new things and adapt to change, they had a positive image of themselves and felt more confident in making friends as the programme helped them feel less anxious with new people.

Yasmeen first engaged with us via the 1-2-1 WhatsApp support offered on the programme. She mentioned that she was struggling with her mental health and felt really low due to difficulties finding work and trying to decipher what career path to choose. Her mental health had also started to affect her social life as she would avoid her friends who were “doing really well and progressing” while she felt stuck and depressed. We encouraged her to participate in the learning and training sessions, in particular the interview skills and assessments centres sessions, as well as the CV clinic; these sessions helped her to develop her employability skills and increase her chances of securing a job. She was also referred to one of our employability skills programmes which helped her think about what strengths she has and what kind of work she may find fulfilling or interesting. She successfully applied for a paid part time internship with us.

She also signed up to the stress management sessions, self-care activities, lots of social activities as well as the Action Learning Sets. Throughout the course of the programme we were able to see her build her confidence and resilience, she became really motivated and is continuing her internship with us with the potential of becoming a young facilitator soon as she is really enjoying working with young people.

Elevate Wellness Programme

The focus of the Elevate Wellness programme was to create a safe space for young people to discuss barriers to keeping safe and having vaccinations, and how to overcome difficult conversations regarding vaccines and covid related issues with peers and family. The programme was fun and engaging whilst embedding informal learning in each session. We helped young people to develop holistically and tackle issues they faced due to the impact of covid 19 on their mental health. We helped develop the emotional well-being of young people and promoted greater resilience and mental toughness.

109 young people participated in the programme; 45% were female and 55% male. 49% of the young people identified as Asian, 36% Black and 15% White.

We worked with them to facilitate and improve their personal, social, and educational development, to enable them to develop their voice, influence, and place in society and to reach their full potential. We encouraged young people to work with their peers in most of the sessions, learning, and reflecting as a group through art, debate, media, team-building exercises, and group discussions. This teamwork and collective activity enabled young people to develop social skills and competencies facilitating progression to independent adulthood.

The programme created a safe space for young people to discuss life after the pandemic and how being vaccinated is the best way forward to keeping ourselves and our loved ones safe. The sessions focused on wellness activities & how to nourish the body through eating clean, physical activity, and wearing a mask. We also provided Q&A sessions and group sessions where young people could share their experiences due to covid, understand their needs, and have honest conversations about the stigma of vaccinations.

The sessions included movement workshops, clay modelling, gardening, yoga, food tours, cinema trips Q&A and group discussions, and healthy eating on a budget.

As a part of this project, we held self-care sessions for boys and girls separately.

Young girls wore face masks and got their nails done and young boys wore eye masks and got their nails filed whilst having conversations about nutrition and healthy foods and infusing group discussions on how they felt during the covid lockdowns and how they feel now, especially with their mental health. This gave the staff an insight into how they felt as a group. We also discussed mental health issues, anxiety, and loneliness that young people experienced as they felt they missed out on key social opportunities due to Covid 19 and lockdowns.

We had 121 informal conversations with the young people before or after every session. This enabled us to reach young people personally and to influence their knowledge and awareness around covid vaccines.

We held weekly 'Listening Sessions' - a group session to encourage young people to talk in a safe space about the challenges they face. We alternated the sessions between online and face-to-face. During these sessions, we discussed whether they had family members who are vulnerable and elderly for whom they were worried about getting Covid and found that many young people had family members falling sick or catching the flu during the cold weather.

The programme helped young people to open up about the issues they faced during the pandemic and the recovery phases. Mental health issues, anxiety and loneliness were some of the issues they faced. They felt the pressure of staying on top of Covid guidelines and challenging myths/fake information to keep themselves and those around them safe. Poor lifestyle and diet were other issues we tackled during this project.

This project was planned and delivered by 6 young facilitators and was solely led by young people's voices, where we offered opportunities for young people to debate inequalities and create solutions and innovative ideas to cross barriers faced. We upskilled our young facilitators and trained them to be Covid Champions for Newham.

Young people told us that they absolutely loved the programme of activities on offer and the space to have intimate conversations.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Community Connectors

Community Connectors support people who are experiencing mental health difficulties. Some are already using mental health services, and others refer themselves through open access provision. Our holistic interventions focus on supporting people to address their social needs and increase their independence, resilience, confidence, and self-esteem, which has a positive impact on their overall wellbeing.. This includes advice and support around housing, immigration, welfare benefits, financial advice, food banks as well as help to overcome loneliness, or learn new skills, and attend support groups and social activities.

This year, we assisted 202 people. The predominant issues were loneliness, isolation, bereavement, depression, and clients wanting to integrate back into community life and alleviate their social anxieties. People had difficulties relating to immigration, welfare and benefits, housing, social inclusion, and homelessness. With the Cost of Living crisis unravelling, financial hardship became an increasingly dominant concern.

The Community Connectors diversified their offer by learning how to support individuals with welfare advice, housing and immigration support and setting up triage clinics at foodbanks to provide a more open access support for mental wellbeing. This approach has worked well in reinforcing resilience and allowing clients to access existing support.

Johnstone is a 54-year-old man of West Indian descent. He was referred to us for bereavement support. He explained how he sadly lost his partner and two older children to Covid. Johnstone told us how he found it difficult to move on and to find any hope in life. The peer-to-peer non-invasive support he was provided with allowed Johnstone to openly express his frustration, deep depression, and lack of enthusiasm for what he used to do. Johnstone used to be very active in the community, loved his security work and evenings watching football with his peers.

By allowing Johnstone to have autonomy over his care plan, he was able to map out the care he needed. Johnstone accessed bereavement support and realised quickly how helpful and supportive he was to others. By focusing on others, Johnstone is now a trained bereavement volunteer and uses his experience to impart hope and strength in others on a similar journey. Johnstone has now taken up his love for sports and through the support of a personal health budget, he was able to access a local gym and actively involve himself with others.

Johnstone was also able to access localised affordable counselling and through sessions, allow himself to grieve in safe spaces. It was a loving gesture when he invited me to join him in a memorial mass at church to remember his family whom he believes are now angels smiling down on him. Johnstone has rekindled his love for music, loves going out and dancing to the songs he used to when his partner was around.

His home is now a hub of activities, and he wishes to access employment support. Through patience, resilience building and focusing on solutions his mental wellbeing has really improved.

Positive Psychology Journalling and Coaching

During the year we piloted some preventative and early intervention services that focused on emotional and mental health and wellbeing. The pilots used evidence-based Therapeutic Writing, Expressive Writing, Applied Positive Psychology and Coaching Psychology interventions to support those experiencing mental health issues and those who wanted to improve their mental well-being. Two evidence-based and culturally tailored programmes were delivered, the Women's Journaling Programme in Black History Month 2022 and the Men's Journaling Programme in March 2023.

The impact of our pilot programmes showed:

75% of women and 80% of men experienced lowered anxiety.
58% of women and 65% of men reported reduced depression.
92% of women and 95% of men experienced feeling less overwhelmed.
100% experienced reduced rumination and improved thoughts and emotions.
100% learn about cost-effective tools to help their mental health and well-being.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

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The programmes equipped participants with inexpensive therapeutic tools that they incorporated into their daily lives, used when required and taught and shared within their network, in addition to de-stigmatizing mental illness and signposting participants to other services. We now have a waiting list for future well-being programmes.

Voluntary Sector Capacity Building - Fitter Finance

The Fitter Finance programme aims to improve the financial management of micro and small community and voluntary sector organisations in Newham. The programme expanded during the pandemic, as it became clear that organisations needed practical help to apply for funding, particularly from Trusts and Foundations.

We continued to deliver our full programme of activities to community groups, CICs and charities within the borough and neighbouring boroughs. This included one-to-one sessions, workshops, fundraising support, and organisational training sessions. Many of these sessions were delivered virtually in the early part of the year, with more sessions being delivered in person, apart from the workshops, as the year progressed.

We delivered 42 sessions to 17 groups, with 6 being new organisations. The focus of these sessions was organisational development, fundraising, financial management and financial systems/ reporting. Most of the groups supported this year were registered charities, although we are seeing more CICs forming in the borough. We have also seen a significant shift towards health and wellbeing focused organisations, following the pandemic.

Seven training/workshop events were developed and delivered. These included Gift Aid, Fundraising, Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E), Getting Started, Marketing and Communications, Treasurer Training, and Financial Systems. Two of these training/workshops were developed in response to previous feedback from groups regarding the additional support they would need. M&E was developed to help some of the groups to better understand the monitoring and evaluation requirements of funders with a focus on financial reporting to funders. Marketing and Communications training was created to help groups better utilise their marketing and communications to increase engagement and attract more funding. The total attendance for these workshops were 50 and this represented 46 groups from across Newham.

We also delivered an additional workshop designed to support several Community Garden groups in the borough with basic financial systems, organised in partnership with Forest Gate Community Garden because of our close working relationship and support previously provided. The session was attended by 10 individuals representing eight grassroots organisations.

We revamped our online offer, including information and bite sized training videos and showcasing case studies of groups that we have supported during the programme. We had 179 page views for the Fitter Finance page on the Aston-Mansfield site and 150 views on our YouTube site for the training videos.

The feedback we have received clearly demonstrates that we have improved the knowledge and expertise in financial management, digital operation, and fundraising awareness of many organisations in the borough and surrounding areas. Both on an individual and organisational basis, trustees and CEOs have increased their awareness of good practice and legal requirements related to financial management, digital operation, and fundraising. Through the introduction of the digital bite sized training videos, toolkit, and resource sheets, organisational leaders have had access to a wide range of resources that can be used to establish sound financial and operational systems from the beginning of their development journey.

We have also continued to provide the toolkit to other organisations such as Money4You as part of the BAMER Hub and Avocado project.

The groups that we support continue to have the desire to transform their services but do not have the finances or knowledge in house to meet the demand. Consequently, much of the advice and support focused on how to change services to new digital formats and how to showcase impact. Some organisations have been slow to make the move from face-to-face meetings to digital meetings because of cultural norms or not knowing how to facilitate the move. This was something that we recognised last year and why we hosted several more digitally focused networking sessions and workshops that were well attended. We facilitated connections between similarly focused groups that have the skills or experience to help each other.

Although digital is the new normal for most groups there continue to be groups that prefer the face-to-face approach and there is a significant need to build trust in more diverse communities. Many groups still need translation to easily access the information available and be able to utilise the best practice being delivered. To ensure we reach the widest possible audience, we have increasingly on the help of partner organisations in the borough to share training and workshop support available, as communication

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

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continues to be splintered across several organisation locally. The younger generation prefer the use of technology, such WhatsApp, Instagram and TikTok and the more established but still small organisations prefer existing approaches to inform and connect them.

Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust (AMCT) Seed Grants Scheme

We administered the AMCT Seed Grants Scheme, awarding £4K to 4 organisations. The seed grants are for small ethnic minority community groups and charities that have an annual income of £10,000 or less. Groups must be based in Newham, with a focus on supporting and promoting health and wellbeing for Newham residents. Organisations receiving a Seed Grant also make use of the support available from the Aston-Mansfield Fitter Finance team to help their organisation to grow and become more sustainable.

Volunteering

"I started volunteering because I struggle with verbal communication, working in a team helps me communicate in different ways. This helps to increase my confidence in my day-to-day life to make new friends"

"I completed the Let's Talk About Race training. There was quite a lot of information for me, but I was able to understand it. Thank you for this training"

"I struggle with my mental health. I started volunteering when I was well, but I needed to take a break. I felt bad thinking I was letting everyone down and had messed up. I was told to take as much time as I needed and when I was ready, I could come back. It's nice to know that I am not judged for my illness and there's a place for me here."

"One of my biggest strengths and achievements this year is the huge increase in confidence and feeling able to carry out my work independently and with minimal supervision and also being able to guide and support new volunteers through their volunteering journey."

Aston-Mansfield continues to provide a safe, non-judgmental environment for those with little to no work experience, and little social interaction, to those volunteering as part of their professional development. Volunteers can learn at their individual pace which has a significant impact on their confidence. Acquiring new skills, experience and increased self-esteem have allowed many volunteers to move onto paid positions.

60 people volunteered with us during the year.

Recruiting volunteers has proved challenging, due primarily to the Cost of Living Crisis and labour shortages which means people need to take on more paid work and are finding it easier to get work. In addition, vulnerable people continue to have pandemic related concerns about working with the public.

We developed our volunteering programme in several ways, including

- Increasing our volunteers' meal budget to enable volunteers to buy hot meals.
- Building strong working relationships with East London Foundation Trust, MIND in Tower Hamlets and Newham and Generate-UK, providing tailored volunteering opportunities for those with physical and learning disabilities, mental health issues and people experiencing isolation
- Partnering with London Learning Consortium to provide two-week placements for young people aged 16 -25 years old.
- Deepening our relationship with the University of East London to provide online coaching for young people, staff, and volunteers. The volunteer coaches are postgraduate students with backgrounds in Human Resources, counselling, and education.
- Providing training for volunteers in First Aid, Mental Health First Aid, Let's Talk About Race in the Workplace, Trauma-Sensitive Mindfulness, Coaching and Bereavement. This was in addition to role specific training.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The statement of financial activities shows a net deficit for the year of £131,385 (2021: Net income of £5,918). Income decreased by 0.39% in the year to £1,619,019. Total expenditure increased by 8.12% compared with prior year as to £1,744,108.

Other than bank deposits the charity does not hold investments.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees review on a quarterly basis the charity's development and operational plans, future funding needs and its overall resilience and financial stability in light of its ability to meet its charitable objectives for the foreseeable future (usually a period up to 3 years).

The Trustees' consideration takes into account the major risks to the organisation – see Risk Management below. Additionally, the Trustees consider the need to ensure viability of the charity beyond the immediate future, absorb setbacks and be able to take advantage of opportunities and new initiatives.

As discussed in the Trustees' Report, Aston Mansfield Charitable Trust ("AMCT") a connected charity (see Note 19 to the Accounts) has been granted planning permission for the redevelopment of the Durning Hall site.

It is anticipated the capital and development works may have some short to medium term operational impact reducing revenues from existing property assets and requiring incremental staff and other costs to continue service provision without use of Durning Hall.

As this is likely to absorb brought forward reserves the Trustees have determined to adopt, during this transitional phase of investment in the future, a "zero level" reserves policy.

AMCT has historically provided the charity with an annual grant with a non-binding preference from the donor for this to be spent on special projects, capacity building or future projects as determined by the trustees. In view of operational impact of AMCT's capital and development works AMCT has indicated that it will additionally support the charity in meeting its charitable objectives to the extent revenues are reduced or costs increased consequent to the re-development of the Forest Gate site.

The charity's reserve position as at 31 March 2023 is disclosed in Note 18 to the Accounts. At 31 March 2023 the charity held total funds of £1,667,362 (2022 - £1,798,747) of which £1,420,407 (2022 - £1,447,416) represents the Endowment Fund, Restricted Fund £69,936 (2022- £210,314) and Unrestricted Fund £177,019 (2022 - £141,017).

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For the reasons explained above, and having considered the charity's income, expenditure and risks, the trustees are satisfied that the charity would remain viable for the foreseeable future even if no free reserves are held.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Our plans for implementing 'Creating the Future', our strategy which is outlined earlier in this report, include

- Continuing to grow our work with children and young people
- Developing our mental health and wellbeing offer
- Moving away, over time, from providing community space in some areas
- Working with the Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust on the redevelopment of the Forest Gate site
- Improving the financial sustainability of the organisation, by improving the profitability of the property assets, and the ways in which the Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust property assets are managed

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Aston-Mansfield is a registered charity (number 220085) and a company limited by guarantee (number 48350). The charity is governed by its Articles of Association. These were revised in the light of current legislation and adopted by the members on 14 April 2010.

We have between 7 and 15 trustees at any one time, two of whom are appointed by Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust. We aim to have a Board whose skills and diversity mix fit with Aston-Mansfield's strategic direction, core activities and regulatory requirements. Trustees are appointed through an open recruitment process, which includes an interview with the Chair, and at least one other Trustee, followed by confirmation by the Board.

There is an induction process for new trustees which includes an induction pack, introductory sessions with the Chief Executive and management team, and project visits. New trustees are supported by more experienced trustees through a 'buddying' system.

The trustees meet at least six times a year. Trustees are updated on significant regulatory and sector developments, and participate in training on core issues, for example safeguarding.

The day to day management of the charity is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer who consults regularly with the Chairman and reports to the trustees at each of their meetings.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:

- An annual review of the principal risks and uncertainties that the charity faces. This includes assessing the key success factors, critical dependencies, constraint factors and key milestones and performance indicators for the major changes encompassed in our strategy, Creating the Future, and an analysis of the highest impact risks to which Aston-Mansfield is exposed
- The establishment of policies, systems, and procedures to mitigate risks
- Strategic and operational plans and an annual budget, and progress reporting against plans and budget
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise or manage any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

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The trustees have identified that the major risks are related principally to delays/blockages to redevelopment of the Durning Hall site, and reputation risk due to redevelopment of Durning Hall site. Medium level risks are failure to get sufficient returns on the development of the GP/Primary Care Centre at the Aston-Mansfield Community Centre in Manor Park, the risk of a major fire/flood/building related incident, long term financial sustainability, Trustees and/or management team not having sufficient knowledge/skills, capacity, or diversity and pressures on management on staff. The Trustees have sought to mitigate risk where possible, particularly relating to ensuring that the organisation has access to appropriate governance, professional expertise, and management capability, and that there are plans for and investment in achieving financial sustainability.

On this basis the Trustees are satisfied that all material risks are managed effectively, and that the charity will be funded adequately for the foreseeable future.

PAY POLICY FOR SENIOR STAFF

The directors consider that the Board of Directors, who are the charity's trustees, and the Chief Executive Officer comprise the key management personnel of the charity, in charge of directing and controlling, running, and operating the charity on a day to day basis. All trustees give of their time freely, and no trustee received remuneration in the year. Details of trustees' expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in note 13 and note 19 of the accounts.

The pay of the Chief Executive is reviewed by the trustees annually, and a Remuneration Committee, whose role includes setting the remuneration of the Chief Executive, was established in July 2018. Any increase is based on benchmarking against pay levels in other comparator charities, and performance against agreed objectives.

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 17 of The Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission in determining the activities undertaken by the charity.

The charity's charitable purpose is detailed in its objects, which are to develop, for the public benefit, the community wealth of East London and promote a diverse and inclusive society in which all are free to participate.

Delivery of public benefit is achieved through direct provision of services through the charity's work with children, young people, and families and through the use of its community buildings. The charity is actively engaged in working in partnership with other voluntary sector organisations, and the local authority to ensure an enhanced quality of life to members of the community.

FUNDRAISING PRACTICE AND PERFORMANCE

Aston-Mansfield's fundraising is largely focused on raising funds from Trusts and Foundations and earning income from the public through charity shop sales. The main source of income raised from the public is trading activity through the charity shop. Hence the charity is not signed up to any voluntary fundraising regulation. Aston-Mansfield staff and volunteers undertake all fundraising activity, and there have been no complaints received by Aston-Mansfield about its fundraising activities.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

SISTER CHARITY

Aston-Mansfield has a sister charity, Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust (AMCT) to which Aston-Mansfield is connected. The two charities have similar objects, which encompass supporting and developing disadvantaged communities in East London.

Aston-Mansfield achieves its impact through the direct provision of services to children and young people and families, and through renting space in the community buildings to other groups and organisations in the not for profit sector. Additionally, it provides resources, expertise and training to other groups and organisations in the not for profit sector, thus enabling those organisations to deliver their services to their clients and communities. The Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust is also a Registered Social Landlord, with Aston-Mansfield acting as the managing agent for its social housing

The two charities are separate organisations, each with their own Charity Commission registration numbers, governance arrangements and financial management processes and procedures. The Aston-Mansfield Board currently has 11 Trustees, 5 of whom are Trustees of AMCT. The AMCT Board currently has 9 Trustees, 4 of whom are not a Trustee of Aston-Mansfield. We believe this balance of shared knowledge and independence is beneficial for both organisations. Board meetings are held and minuted separately. It should be noted that Aston-Mansfield prepares and reports on completely separate Accounts with its own reserves and a clear Reserves Policy.

As Aston-Mansfield's work meets AMCT's funding criteria, the charity applies to AMCT for a grant on an annual basis. The size of the grant awarded depends on several factors including the level of disposable income available to AMCT, the performance of Aston-Mansfield in the previous year, and the areas of work for which the grant is sought. Aston-Mansfield reports regularly on its performance to AMCT. AMCT also awards grants to other charities, through an open application process, based on defined priorities and funding criteria.

The charity remains grateful to AMCT for its generosity in this matter, but recognises this arrangement is dependent on several factors, not least the current economic climate and property markets, and current support is no guarantee of future support. Aston-Mansfield acts as the managing agent for several AMCT's properties, and this enables Aston-Mansfield to spend more of its voluntary income on direct work with its beneficiary groups.

Whilst Aston-Mansfield is extremely grateful to AMCT for the continued support of its work, the Trustees recognise this support is agreed on an annual basis and can never be guaranteed. Aston-Mansfield is therefore continually seeking new sources of voluntary income to guarantee the future of its services.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of the Aston Mansfield for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time of the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as we are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

In preparing the Trustees Report, the Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption available to small companies and have not prepared a strategic report.

Approved by the Board on 26 September 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



C C Keen
Chairman

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Aston-Mansfield for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheets, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of the charitable company's net movement in funds, including the income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report (which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report (which incorporates the directors' report).

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the charitable company; or
- the charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 22, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Based on our understanding of the charitable company and the environment in which it operates, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to regulatory requirements charities and companies in England and Wales, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, income tax and payroll tax.

We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls), and determined that the principal risks were related to posting inappropriate journal entries to revenue and management bias in accounting estimate and application of controls around authorisation of expenditure and payments. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Inspecting correspondence with regulators and tax authorities;
- Discussions with management including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulation and fraud;
- Evaluating management's controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities;
- Identifying and testing journals, in particular journal entries postings by unusual users or with unusual descriptions; and
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their critical accounting estimates.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ASTON-MANSFIELD

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Vikram Sandhu
Senior Statutory Auditor
for and on behalf of Haysmacintyre LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors

4 October

2023

10 Queen Street Place
London
EC4R 1AG

ASTON-MANSFIELD

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

		Endowment Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Income	Notes					
Income from donations and legacies						
Donations		-	-	1,617	1,617	20,128
Income from charitable activities						
Grants	3	-	227,139	831,154	1,058,293	1,055,590
Project income		-	-	1,024	1,024	5,368
Rents and facility hire	4	-	-	485,507	485,507	374,692
Income from other trading activities						
Shop sales		-	-	47,131	47,131	39,070
Other income	5	-	-	19,151	19,151	124,171
Total income		-	227,139	1,385,584	1,612,723	1,619,019
Expenditure						
Expenditure on raising funds						
Fundraising		-	-	(81,116)	(81,116)	(79,511)
Shop operating costs		-	-	(45,524)	(45,524)	(39,046)
Expenditure on charitable activities						
Lifelong learning		-	(229,319)	(229,355)	(458,674)	(484,344)
Healthy living		-	(79,058)	(32,545)	(111,603)	(101,268)
Community development		-	(59,140)	(18,171)	(77,311)	(111,883)
Community buildings		(27,009)	-	(942,871)	(969,880)	(797,049)
Total expenditure	6	(27,009)	(367,517)	(1,349,582)	(1,744,108)	(1,613,101)
Net income/(expenditure)		(27,009)	(140,378)	36,002	(131,385)	5,918
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(27,009)	(140,378)	36,002	(131,385)	5,918
Fund balances as at 1 April 2022		1,447,416	210,314	141,017	1,798,747	1,792,829
FUND BALANCES AT 31 MARCH 2023		<u>£1,420,407</u>	<u>£69,936</u>	<u>£177,019</u>	<u>£1,667,362</u>	<u>£1,798,747</u>

There were no recognised gains and losses other than those stated above.

No separate Summary Income and Expenditure Account has been produced as this statement incorporates all Income and Expenditure. Net income for the purposes of Companies Act 2006 excludes income and expenditure in respect of endowment funds.

Excluding movements on endowment funds, net deficit for the year was £104,372 (2022: net surplus £32,927).

A full comparative Statement of Financial Activities is included at note 22.

The notes on pages 29 to 44 form part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET

AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	9	1,616,989	1,643,372
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks and work in progress		-	407
Debtors	10	104,121	125,958
Cash at bank and in hand		135,619	204,348
		<u>239,740</u>	<u>330,713</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(189,367)</u>	<u>(175,338)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>50,373</u>	<u>155,375</u>
NET ASSETS		<u><u>£1,667,362</u></u>	<u><u>£1,798,747</u></u>
Funds:			
Endowment Fund	15	1,420,407	1,447,416
Restricted Fund	16,20	69,936	210,314
Unrestricted Fund	17	<u>177,019</u>	<u>141,017</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS AT 31 MARCH 2023	18	<u><u>£1,667,362</u></u>	<u><u>£1,798,747</u></u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by Board of the Trustees on 26 September 2023 and were signed below on its behalf by:


 Christopher C Keen
 Chairman


 Alex Minford
 Deputy Chairman

The notes on pages 29 to 44 form part of these financial statements.

ASTON-MANSFIELD

CASHFLOW STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
CASH USED/GENERATED IN OPERATING ACTIVITIES	12	(67,882)	(61,384)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	9	(847)	-
(DECREASE)/INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS IN THE YEAR		(68,729)	(61,384)
<i>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</i>			
Cash balances at 1 April 2022		204,348	265,732
CASH BALANCES AT 31 MARCH 2023		£135,619	£204,348

The notes on pages 29 to 44 form part of these financial statements.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

Accounting Basis

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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) (second edition, effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Aston-Mansfield meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s). These financial statements have been drawn up in the historical accounting basis, except that certain freehold properties are carried at valuation.

The financial statements incorporate the assets and liabilities of The Lady Trower Trust (Registered Charity number 303172) under a charity commission scheme dated 1994.

The accounts are prepared in pounds sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

Preparation of accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees consider there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The review of our financial position, reserves levels and future plans gives Trustees confidence the charity remains a going concern for the foreseeable future.

In reaching this conclusion, the trustees have considered the impact of Covid-19 on the Charity and have reviewed cash flow forecasts covering a period of more than one year from the date of approval of these accounts

Critical accounting judgements and estimates

In preparing these financial statements, management has made judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of the charities accounting policies and the reported assets, liabilities, income and expenditure and the disclosures made in the financial statements. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. No significant estimates, judgements or assumptions have been applied in the preparation of these financial statements.

Income recognition

Income from shop sales, rents and facility hire and management consultancy fees are accounted for when receivable. Grants are accounted for when the charity becomes entitled to the funding and donations are accounted for when received.

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that 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.

Direct costs, including directly attributable salaries, are allocated on an actual basis to the relevant areas of programme activity. Overheads and other salaries are allocated between expense headings on the basis of time spent.

Support costs which include central office administration are allocated across the categories of cost of raising funds', charitable activities and governance costs. The basis of allocation is set out in note 7 c). Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements relating to the general running of the charity, including costs of strategic planning for the longer term development of the charity.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost in the statement of financial activity.

Fixed Assets

Buildings are depreciated at a rate of 2% per annum.

Other assets are depreciated, in equal annual instalments, over their economic lives at the following rates:

Electronic equipment	25%
Furniture and other equipment	15%
Motor vehicles	25%
Froud Centre Adventure Playground	10%

Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments, including trade and other debtors and creditors are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost, on a first-in-first-out basis, and net realisable value.

Operating leases

Rentals payable are charged on a time basis over the term of the lease.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Foreign currency translation

The charities functional and presentation currency is pound sterling. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. All differences are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Employee benefits

- Short term benefits
Short term benefits including holiday pay are recognised as an expense in the period in which the service is received.
- Employee termination benefits
Termination benefits are accounted for on an accrual basis and in line with FRS 102.
- Pension scheme
Aston-Mansfield operates a defined contribution pension scheme for the benefit of its employees. The assets of the scheme are held independently from those of Aston-Mansfield in an independently administered fund. The pensions costs charged in the financial statements represent the contributions payable during the year.

Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are:

- **Unrestricted funds**

These are general funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

- **ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

- **Restricted funds**

These are funds subject to specific trusts generally declared by the donor or funds raised for a specific purpose.

- **Endowment funds**

These are permanent funds and must be held indefinitely consisting of two sites of land and property. They are not expendable. However, one of the endowed assets may be changed, for instance the proceeds arising from the sale of the property might be invested in other suitable forms of endowed investment or in the other endowed property. These funds arise from the amalgamation of The Lady Trower Trust with those of the charity in 1994.

Taxation

The charity's activities are exempt from income tax and corporation tax. The charity is registered for Value Added Tax. Certain of the charity's activities are exempt or non-business activities for Value Added Tax purposes and consequently the charity is unable to reclaim all the Value Added Tax it incurs on its purchases. Expenditure in these financial statements is therefore shown inclusive of Value Added Tax suffered.

LEGAL STATUS

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of a winding up is limited to £0.50.

3. INCOME FROM GRANTS	2023 £	2022 £
Grant income classified within income from charitable activities		
Aston Mansfield Charitable Trust	789,385	586,927
Local government	10,000	46,455
Other statutory bodies	30,069	156,572
Corporate bodies	174,868	127,223
Trusts and Livery companies	53,971	138,413
	<u>£1,058,293</u>	<u>£1,055,590</u>

Income attributable to fundraising efforts is £257,612 (2022: £444,721).

4. RENTS AND SIMILAR INCOME	2023 £	2022 £
Property rental income	447,507	336,694
Wayleave income	37,982	37,982
Facility hire	18	16
	<u>£485,507</u>	<u>£374,692</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

5.	OTHER INCOME			2023 £	2022 £
	Cost recoveries			16,606	15,568
	HMRC Coronavirus JRS			-	28,895
	Insurance claim			-	77,663
	Historical credit write back			-	31
	Sundries			2,545	2,014
				<u>£19,151</u>	<u>£124,171</u>
6.	EXPENDITURE	Staff Costs £	Support Costs £	Other direct Costs £	Total 2023 £
a)	Analysis of total expenditure				
	Cost of raising funds				
	Fundraising	70,731	10,385	-	81,116
	Shop operating costs	37,033	8,491	-	45,524
		<u>107,764</u>	<u>18,876</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>126,640</u>
	Charitable activities				
	Unrestricted funds				
	Lifelong learning	160,592	57,112	11,651	229,355
	Healthy Living	25,595	6,950	-	32,545
	Community development	14,056	4,115	-	18,171
	Community buildings	527,883	414,757	231	942,871
		<u>728,126</u>	<u>482,934</u>	<u>11,882</u>	<u>1,222,942</u>
	Restricted funds				
	Lifelong learning	85,905	28,492	114,922	229,319
	Healthy Living	76,506	1,901	651	79,058
	Community development	51,733	5,254	2,153	59,140
	Community buildings	-	-	-	-
		<u>214,144</u>	<u>35,647</u>	<u>117,726</u>	<u>367,517</u>
	Endowment Funds				
	Community buildings	-	27,009	-	27,009
		<u>-</u>	<u>27,009</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,009</u>
	Total expenditure 2023	<u>£1,050,034</u>	<u>£564,466</u>	<u>£129,608</u>	<u>£1,744,108</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

6. EXPENDITURE (continued)						Direct Costs £	Head Office £	Total 2023 £
b) Analysis of staff costs								
Cost of raising funds								
Fundraising						70,731	-	70,731
Shop operating costs						37,033	-	37,033
Charitable activities								
Unrestricted funds								
Lifelong learning						123,014	37,578	160,592
Healthy living						265	25,330	25,595
Community development						3,594	10,462	14,056
Community buildings						348,090	179,793	527,883
Central services						253,163	(253,163)	-
Restricted funds								
Lifelong learning						85,905	-	85,905
Healthy living						76,506	-	76,506
Community development						51,733	-	51,733
Endowment fund								
Community buildings						-	-	-
Total staff costs 2023						<u>£1,050,034</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£1,050,034</u>
Total staff costs 2022						<u>£985,921</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>985,921</u>
c) Analysis of support costs								
	Admin Costs £	Property Costs £	Travel Costs £	Finance Costs £	Depreciation £	Governance £	Head Office £	Total 2023 £
Cost of raising funds								
Fundraising	8,769	-	-	1,610	-	6	-	10,385
Shop operating costs	1,021	7,470	-	-	-	-	-	8,491
Charitable activities								
Unrestricted funds								
Lifelong learning	19,037	-	-	8,183	-	19,795	10,097	57,112
Healthy living	-	-	-	145	-	-	6,805	6,950
Community development	163	-	-	1,142	-	-	2,810	4,115
Community buildings	28,470	271,479	4,957	40,008	183	21,352	48,308	414,757
Central services	13,198	-	-	13,163	38	41,621	(68,020)	-
Restricted funds								
Lifelong learning	-	1,423	-	-	-	27,069	-	28,492
Healthy living	244	1,416	-	156	-	85	-	1,901
Community development	3,858	1,396	-	-	-	-	-	5,254
Community buildings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Endowment fund								
Community buildings					27,009			27,009
Total support costs 2023	<u>£74,760</u>	<u>£283,184</u>	<u>£4,957</u>	<u>£64,407</u>	<u>£27,230</u>	<u>£109,928</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£564,466</u>

Central services staff costs and support costs are allocated to each of the programmes dependent on the volume of activity.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

6. EXPENDITURE (continued)	2023 £	2022 £
d) Analysis of governance costs		
Legal, consultancy and professional fees	83,388	54,999
Audit fees	20,750	17,874
Health and safety	5,777	4,716
Companies House	13	13
	<u>£109,928</u>	<u>£77,602</u>

	Staff Costs £	Support Costs £	Other direct Costs £	Total 2022 £
e) Analysis of total expenditure – prior year				
Cost of raising funds				
Fundraising	69,542	9,969	-	79,511
Shop operating costs	33,500	5,546	-	39,046
	<u>103,042</u>	<u>15,515</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>118,557</u>
Charitable activities				
Unrestricted funds				
Lifelong learning	266,806	68,014	18,765	353,585
Healthy living	18,066	6,944	-	25,010
Community development	12,154	5,615	5,930	23,699
Community buildings	428,543	341,497	-	770,040
	<u>725,569</u>	<u>422,070</u>	<u>24,695</u>	<u>1,172,334</u>
Restricted funds				
Lifelong learning	65,926	27,885	36,948	130,759
Healthy living	59,331	16,927	-	76,258
Community development	32,053	36,833	19,298	88,184
Community buildings	-	-	-	-
	<u>157,310</u>	<u>81,645</u>	<u>56,246</u>	<u>295,201</u>
Endowment Funds				
Community buildings	-	27,009	-	27,009
	<u>-</u>	<u>27,009</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,009</u>
Total expenditure 2022	<u>985,921</u>	<u>546,239</u>	<u>80,941</u>	<u>1,613,101</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

6. EXPENDITURE (continued)						Direct Costs £	Head Office £	Total 2022 £
f) Analysis of staff costs – prior year								
Cost of raising funds								
Fundraising						69,542	-	69,542
Shop operating costs						33,500	-	33,500
Charitable activities								
Unrestricted funds								
Lifelong learning						160,561	106,245	266,806
Healthy living						-	18,066	18,066
Community development						-	12,154	12,154
Community buildings						322,130	106,413	428,543
Central services						242,878	(242,878)	-
Restricted funds								
Lifelong learning						65,926	-	65,926
Healthy living						59,331	-	59,331
Community development						32,053	-	32,053
Endowment fund								
Community buildings						-	-	-
Total staff costs 2022						<u>£985,921</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>985,921</u>
Total staff costs 2021						<u>£872,234</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£872,234</u>
g) Analysis of support costs - prior year								
	Admin Costs £	Property Costs £	Travel Costs £	Finance Costs £	Depreciation £	Governance £	Head Office £	Total 2022 £
Cost of raising funds								
Fundraising	8,606	-	-	1,363	-	-	-	9,969
Shop operating costs	1,029	4,230	-	-	-	287	-	5,546
Charitable activities								
Unrestricted funds								
Lifelong learning	10,216	3,080	-	14,540	-	2,682	37,496	68,014
Healthy living	-	-	-	566	-	-	6,378	6,944
Community development	-	-	-	1,326	-	-	4,289	5,615
Community buildings	19,613	227,357	3,909	45,517	457	7,089	37,555	341,497
Central services	13,720	-	-	12,328	2,932	56,738	(85,718)	-
Restricted funds								
Lifelong learning	17,162	83	-	-	-	10,640	-	27,885
Healthy living	16,761	-	-	-	-	166	-	16,927
Community development	11,635	25,198	-	-	-	-	-	36,833
Community buildings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Endowment fund								
Community buildings	-	-	-	-	27,009	-	-	27,009
Total support costs 2022	<u>£98,742</u>	<u>£259,948</u>	<u>£3,909</u>	<u>£75,640</u>	<u>£30,398</u>	<u>£77,602</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£546,239</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

7. NET INCOME	2023 £	2022 £
Net income is stated after charging:		
Professional advice insurance including trustee indemnity cover	1,064	605
Depreciation	27,230	30,398
Audit fees	20,750	17,874
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

8. STAFF EMPLOYMENT	2023 £	2022 £
Salaries and wages	880,465	832,529
Social security costs	74,389	67,797
Pension costs	55,526	54,618
Other staff costs	36,150	30,621
Redundancy payments	3,504	356
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total Staff Costs	£1,050,034	£985,921
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

One employee received remuneration for the year in the band £60,000 to £70,000 (2022– 2) and pension cost of £27,838 (2022 – £26,846), were paid in relation to these employees.

The average monthly number of employees during the year was made up as follows:

	2023		2022	
	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time
Community work	39	8	29	8
Central Administration	-	5	-	5
Fundraising	-	2	-	2
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	39	15	29	15
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Full time equivalents	2023	2022
The number of full time equivalent posts is	39.71	31.50
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £91,479 (2022: £88,777).

ASTON-MANSFIELD
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	Land and Buildings £	Furniture and Equipment £	Motor Vehicles £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 April 2022	2,155,448	999,344	51,453	3,206,245
Additions	-	847	-	847
Disposals	-	-	-	-
	<u>2,155,448</u>	<u>1,000,191</u>	<u>51,453</u>	<u>3,207,092</u>
At 31 March 2023				
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2022	512,459	998,963	51,451	1,562,873
Charge for year	27,009	221	-	27,230
Disposals	-	-	-	-
	<u>539,468</u>	<u>999,184</u>	<u>51,451</u>	<u>1,590,103</u>
At 31 March 2023				
Net Book Value				
At 31 March 2023	<u>£1,615,980</u>	<u>£1,007</u>	<u>£2</u>	<u>£1,616,989</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>£1,642,989</u>	<u>£381</u>	<u>£2</u>	<u>£1,643,372</u>

All assets are used for charitable purposes.

10. DEBTORS	2023 £	2022 £
Aston Mansfield Charitable Trust	11,239	11,919
Rent Receivable	78,263	79,133
Other debtors and prepayments	14,619	34,906
	<u>£104,121</u>	<u>£125,958</u>
11. CREDITORS: due within one year	2023 £	2022 £
Deferred income	66,121	47,332
Taxation and social security	24,985	21,948
VAT payable	447	670
Other creditors and accruals	97,814	105,388
	<u>£189,367</u>	<u>£175,338</u>

12. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH (OUTFLOW)/INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	2023 £	2022 £
Net movement in funds	(131,385)	5,918
Depreciation and amortisation	27,230	30,398
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	407	(60)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	14,029	(38,098)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	21,837	(59,542)
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operations	(£67,882)	(£61,384)

13. DIRECTORS/TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION

No director has received any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses (2022: Nil).

14. CHARITY COMMISSION SCHEME

Under a scheme approved by the Charity Commissioners in 1994, the Golden Jubilee Trust merged with Aston-Mansfield and Aston-Mansfield also became the corporate trustee of the Lady Trower Trust, which is the proprietor of the land at Lambourne End and Burges Road, East Ham. Their accounts are merged with those of this charity with effect from 1 October 1993.

15.	ENDOWMENT FUNDS	Movement in funds				
		Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
	Land					
	Burges Road East Ham E6	180,000	-	-	-	180,000
	Lambourne End	1,267,416	-	(27,009)	-	1,240,407
		<u>£1,447,416</u>	<u> </u>	<u>(£27,009)</u>	<u> </u>	<u>£1,420,407</u>
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
	Land	180,000	-	-	-	180,000
	Burges Road East Ham E6	1,294,425	-	(27,009)	-	1,267,416
	Lambourne End	<u>£1,474,425</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>(£27,009)</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£1,447,416</u>
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Expenditure reflects depreciation of the Lambourne End Property.

ASTON-MANSFIELD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

16. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Lambourne End – Lake	2,979	-	-	-	2,979
East End Community Foundation	1,022	9,000	(6,522)	-	3,500
Big Lottery Fund Grant	27,890	-	(27,890)	-	-
City Bridge Trust	6,954	47,985	(54,939)	-	-
Legacy Income	14,365	-	-	-	14,365
London Cycling Grant	3,055	-	(3,055)	-	-
Community Connectors	-	116,183	(79,058)	-	37,125
LB Newham	16,880	-	(11,880)	-	5,000
CAF-ELEVATE	132,169	45,971	(178,140)	-	-
Jack Petchey	5,000	8,000	(6,033)	-	6,967
	<u>£210,314</u>	<u>£227,139</u>	<u>(£367,517)</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£69,936</u>
	Balance at April 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Lambourne End – Lake	2,979	-	-	-	2,979
East End Community Foundation	9,941	8,000	(16,919)	-	1,022
London City Airport	3,000	-	(3,000)	-	-
Community Connectors	17,467	71,423	(88,890)	-	-
Big Lottery Fund Grant	47,722	68,496	(88,328)	-	27,890
City Bridge Trust	7,693	47,800	(48,539)	-	6,954
Legacy Income	14,365	-	-	-	14,365
London Cycling Grant	3,055	-	-	-	3,055
London Community -Response Fund	28,195	-	(28,195)	-	-
LB Newham	18,686	18,780	(20,586)	-	16,880
CAF-ELEVATE	-	132,913	(744)	-	132,169
Jack Petchey	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
	<u>£153,103</u>	<u>£352,412</u>	<u>(£295,201)</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£210,314</u>

A full description of each fund is shown at note 20.

17. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	<u>£141,017</u>	<u>£1,385,584</u>	<u>(£1,349,582)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>£177,019</u>

17. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS (continued)

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
General Fund	£165,301	£1,266,607	(£1,290,891)	£-	£141,017
	<u>£165,301</u>	<u>£1,266,607</u>	<u>(£1,290,891)</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£141,017</u>

18. NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

Current year

	Endowment Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Unrestricted Fund £	Total 2023 £
Fixed Assets	1,615,981	-	1,008	£1,616,989
Current Assets	-	69,936	169,804	239,740
Current Liabilities	(144,672)	-	(44,695)	(189,367)
Inter-fund Loan	(50,902)	-	50,902	-
Net Funds	<u>£1,420,407</u>	<u>£69,936</u>	<u>£177,019</u>	<u>£1,667,362</u>

Previous year

	Endowment Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Unrestricted Fund £	Total 2022 £
Fixed Assets	1,642,990	-	382	1,643,372
Current Assets	-	210,314	120,399	330,713
Current Liabilities	(144,672)	-	(30,666)	(175,338)
Inter-fund Loan	(50,902)	-	50,902	-
Net Funds	<u>£1,447,416</u>	<u>£210,314</u>	<u>£141,017</u>	<u>£1,798,747</u>

19. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions with individuals or trustees during the year (2022- nil).

Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee, although under the control of a different trustee board, is a connected charity with identical objects and having a common administration.

19. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (continued)

During the year the company received a grant of £789,385 (2022- £586,927) from Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust and provided services costing £13,029 (2022 £15,254) to that charity. At the year-end Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust owed Aston Mansfield £11,239 (2022 - £11,919) as disclosed in note 10.

The company is a member of Lambourne End Limited, a charitable company limited by guarantee. During the year the company did not provide any services to the charity (2022 - £ Nil) and no amount was owed to or due from Aston-Mansfield (2022 - £Nil).

20. RESTRICTED FUNDS**Lambourne End Lake**

In 2007 the Environment Agency provided a grant towards the capital cost of providing a lake at Lambourne End. These funds would be utilised once the planning permission is granted and construction work commences on the lake.

East End Community Foundation

A six-week programme of positive activities for young people during the summer holidays including targeted sessions for transitional youth and youth at risk of anti-social behaviour. The funding was provided by East End Community Foundation.

The winter crisis response fund administered by East End Community Foundation was a grant for the emotional and practical support for the specific issue's families were facing during the pandemic. This includes managing children's development and presenting behaviours which indicate mental health issues.

	Movement in funds		
	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £
			Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Positive activities for youth			-
Crisis response	1,022	9,000	(6,522)
			3,500
Total	<u>£1,022</u>	<u>£9,000</u>	<u>(£6,522)</u>
			<u>£3,500</u>

Big Lottery Fund Grant

The Youth4Youth project is funded by the Big Lottery for the development of young leaders and supporting them to campaign/engage in social action relating to local issues which concern them. The project is based on a model of co-production and co-design, which enables young people to develop their leadership skills.

City Bridge Trust

The grant is to support voluntary and community groups to understand and implement sound finance procedures and practices. By helping groups establish good systems that will grow with their group, trustees, donors and funders can have confidence that money is being used and recorded correctly. Annually the programme involves 6 training or workshop sessions, mentoring by staff and experienced volunteers, the development of factsheets and a toolkit to guide groups through the finances. The extension funding is for 2 years, and funds 2-part time staff posts previously funded for three years so this has been a five-year programme.

Legacy

An amount of £19k was received with a request for it to be contributed towards a farm project. This income has been restricted to Aston-Mansfield's activities and expenditures at Lambourne End and other Healthy eating/living initiatives.

20. RESTRICTED FUNDS (continued)

London Cycling Grant

This is a grant funded by Transport for London and managed by the environmental regeneration charity, Groundwork.

It promotes cycling as not only a means of transport, but also a route to greater personal freedom, better health and well-being and stronger, more social communities. Through this grant, children and parents at Little Manor receive cycling tuition for two hours on a weekly basis for four weeks and then go on a cycle adventure.

Community Connectors

Aston-Mansfield Community Connectors are funded through a partnership bid with East London Foundation Trust and Community links. This fund three community connectors roles based in the North of the borough covering Forest Gate and Manor Park neighbourhoods.

Working directly within the NHS, Clinical Commissioning Group and with GP practices, the community connectors work with registered patients with Mental Health Diagnosis. Their role is to engage with the patients and connect them to local activities, initiatives and VCS, Self-help groups and volunteers and support them with addressing issues such as debt management, family disputes and legal matters around housing and access.

London Borough of Newham (LBN)

The Fitter Finance team worked closely with the London Borough of Newham as part of the COVID RESPONSE Strategy.

LBN Community Neighbourhood team worked with Aston-Mansfield Fitter finance to develop a capacity building service for the Voluntary Community Sector (VCS) to help them increase and respond to their immediate communities. The first part of the fund provided bespoke packages of support to groups referred in by the Neighbourhood teams.

In the prior year, LBN provided £10K towards weight management. Every 6-8 weeks young people referrals receive fresh food boxes and recipe cards for cooking with families at home playworkers will also give fun active support to introduce Healthy eating and cooking habits that influence families' behaviours. Young people are then asked to give feedback and send in videos photos of achievements examples of where they have shopped and cooked a healthy meal on a budget.

LBN funded the Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF) for children who are eligible for benefits related Free School Meals, vulnerable children and children with SEND. Giving them access to healthy food and activities during the long school holiday periods. This fund enabled us to deliver 4 days (2 remote and 2 face-to-face) of activity and food during the Christmas period, purchase kitchen equipment to enable us to deliver better quality meals onsite and to enhance cooking activities and to purchase sports equipment to enable us to enhance our physical activity offer.

20. RESTRICTED FUNDS (continued)

We are Food Secure is a program designed to research the reason behind the food choices of young people in Newham, it was funded specifically to conduct interviews with young people aged 11 – 14.

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Movement in funds		Balance at 31 March 2023 £
		Income £	Expenditure £	
Weight Management	9,530	-	(4,530)	5,000
HAF Primary	580	-	(580)	-
HAF Secondary	2,370	-	(2,370)	-
We are Food Secure	200	-	(200)	-
Total	£16,880	£-	(£11,880)	£5,000

CAF-ELEVATE

This was funded by Charities Aid Foundation

Elevate is an employability programme taking young people aged 17 - 25 on a journey of skills development, 1:1 coaching, work experience and paid internships.

The 15-month programme runs until end of March 2023 and funds a full time coordinator, 2 Young Facilitators and contributes to the youth manager role.

Jack Petchey

We have been awarded £10k from Jack Petchey Foundation to deliver workshops, activities and events for young people aged 14+ to support their learning, increase their networks, help build resilience and reduce isolation post pandemic. The one year programme runs until December 2023.

21. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Lambourne End Limited

Aston-Mansfield is a member of Lambourne End Limited and in the event of winding-up it has undertaken to contribute an amount not exceeding £25,000.

22. COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022)

		Endowment Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	2022 Total £
Income	Notes				
Income from donations and legacies					
Donations		-	-	20,128	20,128
Income from charitable activities					
Grants	3	-	352,412	703,178	1,055,590
Project income		-	-	5,368	5,368
Rents and facility hire	4	-	-	374,692	374,692
Income from other trading activities					
Shop sales		-	-	39,070	39,070
Other income	5	-	-	124,171	124,171
Total income		-	352,412	1,266,607	1,619,019
Expenditure					
Expenditure on raising funds					
Fundraising		-	-	(79,511)	(79,511)
Shop operating costs		-	-	(39,046)	(39,046)
Expenditure on charitable activities					
Lifelong learning		-	(130,759)	(353,585)	(484,344)
Healthy living		-	(76,258)	(25,010)	(101,268)
Community development		-	(88,184)	(23,699)	(111,883)
Community buildings		(27,009)	-	(770,040)	(797,049)
Total expenditure	6	(27,009)	(295,201)	(1,290,891)	(1,613,101)
Net income/(expenditure)		(27,009)	57,211	(24,284)	5,918
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(27,009)	57,211	(24,284)	5,918
Fund balances as at 1 April 2021		1,474,425	153,103	165,301	1,792,829
FUND BALANCES AT 31 MARCH 2022		£1,447,416	£210,314	£141,017	£1,798,747

ASTON - MANSFIELD

England & Wales - Charity number 220085

Accounts

ASTON-MANSFIELD
(A company limited by guarantee)
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Charity Registration Number: 220085

Company Number: 48350

ASTON MANSFIELD

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

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REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Trustees	Christopher C Keen	(Chairman)
	Rev Paul Regan	
	Noor Choudary	
	Alex Minford	(Deputy Chairman/Acting Treasurer)
	Mahendra Savjani	
	Rehan Akhtar	
	Diana Hofler	(Resigned 11 June 2021)
	Emily Miles	
	Dr Joanne Beckmann	
	Rev Jeremy Fraser	
Chief Executive Officer	Mr Mohammad Khan	
	Mr Asif Mangera	
Secretary	Claire Helman	
Bankers	National Westminster Bank Plc Ground Floor, Gredley House 1-11 Broadway Stratford London E15 4WG	Co-operative Bank Plc 80 Cornhill London EC3V 3NJ
Auditors	Haysmacintyre LLP 10 Queen Street Place London EC4R 1AG	
Solicitors	Russell-Cooke 2 Putney Hill Putney London SW15 6AB	
Registered Office	Durning Hall Earlham Grove Forest Gate London E7 9AB	

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report and the audited financial statements of the organisation for the year ended 31 March 2022 which have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (revised 2019) and the Companies Act 2006.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the charity are to develop the community wealth of East London and promote a diverse and inclusive society in which all are free to participate. These are achieved through several structured programmes and a range of activities supporting people of all ages, creeds, cultures, and abilities, principally within the London Borough of Newham.

The Newham Context

The immediate impact of the pandemic on Newham's residents was amongst the worst in the country, with the highest death rate due to COVID-19. In the living with Covid era, we are seeing the worsening mental health of children, young people and families, and the effects of the pandemic on people's resilience. Coupled with the Cost of Living crisis, in a borough already experiencing high rates of poverty, life for the people we work with, and for many of our staff and volunteers, is becoming increasingly difficult.

- Deprivation in Newham is high, with the overall Index of Multiple Deprivation score in 2019 showing Newham as the 3rd most deprived London borough. For the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI), in 2019 the overall score ranked Newham 11th out of all London boroughs
- 27% of residents in Newham are paid below the London Living wage, which accounts for around 36,000 residents
- Average rent represents around 65% of average wages in Newham compared to 30% across the UK
- 1 in 5 adults with children in Newham are over-indebted, which rises to 1 in 4 where there are 3 or more children in the family
- 50% of children are living in poverty (39,638) and 32% children are living in food insecurity (25,700)

In response to this, we have increased our emotional and practical support for families, expanded our food distribution service, and grown our work with vulnerable children and families, and with young people.

The year in numbers

During the year we have directly delivered services to around 540 children and young people, 61 families and 108 adults with mental health issues, and 26 community organisations. In addition, an estimated 2,400 people have used our centres for sessional activities, and 26 organisations rented office space.

Some 140 children have developed socially, physically, and creatively through a range of play experiences at our After School Club, Holiday Playschemes, and Breakfast Club. The children benefit from improved life-skills, confidence, and self-awareness, whilst the programme offers parents affordable wrap around care allowing them to participate in work, study, or training.

61 families used our Little Manor Supermarket, which provides free food and emotional and practical support to families

We have worked with around 400 young people, who developed skills, confidence, self-esteem, social networks, leadership abilities and resilience through participating in our youth leadership, social action, and employability programmes. Others participated in activities/workshops focused on providing a safe space for young people to be creative and innovative in finding solutions to health inequalities.

Around 47 community groups/organisations and some 2,400 people have learned, connected, and improved their wellbeing through participating in activities at our community centres, the Aston-Mansfield Community Centre and Durning Hall. In addition, 26 organisations rented office space.

We worked with around 90 community groups/organisations, supporting them with fundraising, key systems and procedures including financial policies, safeguarding, project plans and Monitoring & Evaluation reporting systems.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Strategy

This was the fifth year of implementation of our strategy, Creating the Future, a summary of which is below.

Creating the Future – In summary

VISION

We want to see more children, young people and families in Newham and East London leading happy healthy lives, realising their potential and unlocking their ambition.

MISSION

Using an integrated and community focused approach we will make long lasting change, offering opportunity, community and inspiration to children, families and young people in Newham and East London.

WE WILL

- Offer a continuum of support, through both direct delivery and signposting, from cradle to career. We will nurture relationships, offer opportunity, community and inspiration throughout our provision.
- Build on our current children and youth programmes, collaborating with inspirational and successful individuals and organisations to offer the best opportunities and experiences.
- Continue to develop and seek out partnerships with the community, voluntary, public and business sectors to ensure that our work is relevant, complementary to other service provisions, sustainable and embedded in best practice.
- Give children, young people and families greater opportunities to thrive and flourish, we will share our expertise and methodologies with other organisations to help inform best practice in the sector.

MAJOR CHANGES

- A move away from our focus on community buildings. Instead we will focus on people-oriented service provision and effective signposting.
- Shifting our voluntary sector capacity building work to focus on organisations working with children, young people and families and development of social enterprises.
- Growing our current children and families programme to include a wider age range and to be present in more geographical areas.
- Growing our youth programme. To cater to the wide and varied needs of young people in Newham and East London.
- Introducing a social enterprise aspect to our ecosystem to create more employment and training opportunities, particularly for young people, and to improve the financial sustainability of our work.

WAYS OF WORKING

- Ecosystems: we work with the ecosystem of organisations effecting children, young people and families, and we create a strong organisational ecosystem.
- 'Giving something back': building opportunities for people who have benefitted from our work to become part of the next generation of Aston-Mansfield, for example as volunteers, staff, supporters and ambassadors.
- An integrated approach: understanding that we are one element of people's lives, and that by working with others within their networks we can improve our impact.
- Successful, ambitious and enterprising: continuing to learn, innovating, and staying relevant.
- Impact led: understanding and measuring the difference that we make and changing and adapting our work to improve our impact.

During 2021/2022, our progress in relation to the strategy included:

- Implementing new youth programmes, including young people and racial injustice, a new Youth Collective, and a project to provide safe space for young people to be creative and innovative in finding solutions to health inequalities
- Developing our children's programme by expanding our work with vulnerable children and families, building stronger relationships with local schools, and launching a new 'Cooking Collective' project for young people and families
- Creating a new positive psychology coaching strand to our youth offer
- Building relationships with health and wellbeing partners, through representation on various health and wellbeing partnerships and initiatives
- Completing a substantial building project to create a new GP/Primary Care Centre at the Aston-Mansfield Community Centre in Manor Park
- Progressing the redevelopment of the Durning Hall site in Forest Gate
- Securing funding to support our plans for a new governance model, so that our governance is more connected to local communities, more diverse and strongly influenced by diverse and local voices, and particularly by young people

Children and Family Work

Children's programme

"I love this programme, I drop my child off for breakfast, pick her up around 5.45, get to hear all the great stuff she's done, make her dinner and then she's so tired she wants to go to bed. Quality time for me and my partner! Thank you."

The Little Manor Play Project provides high quality, affordable wraparound care for children in Newham aged five to 12 and comprises breakfast, after school and holiday provision. It also offers emotional and practical support and free food to families. During the year, some 140 children have developed socially, physically, and creatively through a range of play experiences. The children benefit from improved life-skills, confidence, and self-awareness, whilst the programme offers parents affordable wrap around care allowing them to participate in work, study, or training.

During the year, we connected with 140 children:

- 61 families (229 family members) used the Little Manor supermarket
- 140 children participated in our face to face sessions
 - 81 children used Breakfast Club
 - 100 children used Playscheme
 - 51 children used After School Club
 - 27 children used Transitional Youth

Family Support

"Thank you for all your support to me and my children. You see, when lockdown was at its peak, I was unable to queue up at the grocery stores to buy food for my family because I am extremely medically vulnerable. So, the food that you have been giving us enabled me not only to feed my children without stress but also to save money. In addition, my husband passed away during lockdown. So, I had to adjust to a life of a single parent. Some days when I did not feel like cooking at all, I will heat the cooked meals and feed my children. You gave me access to Wi-Fi in your centre and helped me deal with some of my husband's affairs, putting me in contact with the Embassy and bereavement services. THANK YOU to you and to ALL the people who are contributing to this food and support service. You are saving life without knowing it."

Little Manor Supermarket is our free weekly food distribution service where families are given a personal time slot during which they can collect various food products. During these slots, staff talk to families about their personal circumstances and if a need for additional support is identified, staff arrange a time for a longer appointment. 61 families used the supermarket during the year, and we offered support and signposting on issues including housing, debt, benefit applications, mental health and wellbeing, family conflict, difficult behaviour, domestic violence, bullying, online sexual exploitation etc

"Thanks for our chat about the personal issue I faced recently. I am very grateful that you put me in touch with your Fitter Finance team, they were very understanding and helpful."

Staff participated in a range of training, increasing their knowledge of issues such as housing and homelessness, lack of digital technologies, employment rights and asylum entitlements. This enabled us to provide a broader range of on the spot advice and support prior to signposting to additional services.

Holiday Programmes

This year, we expanded our holiday programmes to include many more vulnerable children and their families, supported by funding from the London Borough of Newham/National Government Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF). Our approach was to ensure that HAF children had the same opportunities and experience as families who pay for the service. We provided an exceptional variety of physical, healthy diet and lifestyle, and enrichment activities.

Physical activities offered children opportunities to undertake new challenges, many of which developed self-esteem and built confidence. They included traditional sports such as badminton, football, cricket, basketball, hockey, and rounders, as well as group games and parachute games, specifically aimed at developing teamwork. Other on-site activities included roller skating and go-kart building and racing, and an inflatable activity run at our inhouse fairground session. Off-site sessions included bowling, clip 'n' climb, a sport's day at Little Ilford Park, visits to several parks and playgrounds, a soft play session at Gambado and climbing, archery, high ropes & orienteering at Fairplay House.

Children found the physical activities fun and exciting.

"I really like the bouncy castle slide. It was very high and very fun."

"We did roller skating. It was hard at first. I fell over 100 times and then I got good at it."

"Fairplay house was epic."

"My favourite game was Fire, Water, Plane. You had to run to the fire wall, the water wall or plane in the middle when they shouted it out. If you made a mistake or came last, you were out. I got through to the final one time, it made me so tired."

"I really liked the group games they were fun. We played games that I've never done before."

Children also experienced a wide range of food-based activities designed to educate them on the benefits of maintaining a healthy diet and lifestyle. Food preparation, quizzes and tastings gave them the opportunity to try new things, focusing on recipes that contribute to a healthy balanced meal or snack. Children said that they liked doing the activities that involved using equipment that was new to them.

"I liked making the pasty, I got to choose what I put in it. I put chicken, baked beans, peppers, and cheese. My mum put it in the oven at home and it was yum."

"I know that my children are really enjoying themselves. Whenever they make any food at Little Manor, they can't wait to show me and it's always so tasty, I don't even have to put on a brave face when I try it!"

"Getting the recipe cards are helpful as my son never remembers how he makes anything"

Many enriching activities were off-site and involved travelling by bus, overground train or coach, an enriching experience in itself for children who do not move far beyond their local area. Off-site activities included white water rafting and a water wipe out obstacle course at Lee Valley Watersports Centre, and trips to Botany Bay Beach, Barking Splash Park, Diggerland, Adventure Island, the cinema, and the theatre. On-site activities included an African drumming and dancing workshop, den building, go-kart building and soft play.

"We went to the beach. It was really good; I dug a big hole in the sand with my friend and buried him in it up to his arms. When we went into the sea the waves were big and nearly knocked me down, the sea was cold at first but then I got used to it. The only bit I didn't like was the seagulls who kept trying to steal our food. They are really big, and the staff had to keep chasing them away. I was a little bit scared."

"I like Diggerland, I got to go on so many things. I worked a digger and drove a car. There was one ride with seats in great big digger, the seats were in the bit that digs the hole and it lifted you up and spun you round really fast."

"We built Go Karts it was such fun. After we built them, we went outside and got to play with them, then we had races. I won two of my races."

"We went to see Cinderella at the theatre. We had to walk all the way it was very far, but when we got there, it was so good. The theatre was really good and funny. Then we had to walk all the way back, I still think it was good."

"When I picked up my daughter all she could do was tell me all about the pantomime she had seen, it really made her day."

"I think it was great that the kids walked from the centre to the cinema and then back again, that's quite a distance. Normally my child doesn't want to walk anywhere, he actually said it was fun. I'm going to remind him of that in the future."

Some of the activities were created to build self-esteem and form positive relationships, an important factor in building resilience. Games such as human pyramids, team challenges and team wide games needed the children to plan and work together, encouraging them to make new friends. Success at completing each challenge improves self-worth, while games promote good sportsmanship and coping with winning and losing. Calm sessions with fidget toys, foot spas, music, colouring, oobleck, Zorbies, playdough, wordsearches and puzzles were designed for the children to explore ways in which to manage stress and recognise the calming effect of playing with tactile objects. Another session involved the children being in small groups and talking about how different situations made them feel and why a certain situation can evoke different emotions in different people.

"I liked all of it today. We got to play with lots of stuff and wash our feet in the feet bath. I love Zorbies they feel all squishy and cool, I wanted to take some home but couldn't. I played with my friends at the play dough table, and we made cakes and cookies."

"When we did the calm stuff, I thought it was going to be boring, but it was really good. I played with the fidget toys for quite a long time and the foot spa was nice and bubbly and I suppose I did feel a bit calm."

As part of our Christmas Holiday Playscheme, we provided families with food hampers and with play activities to do at home. These were greatly appreciated.

"A big thank you to Little Manor for providing a wonderful hamper. It was a totally unexpected surprise and very helpful. The cheesecake activity you supplied for my son was a bit of a mystery until I received the video of what to do on Christmas Eve. What a great idea, he was very excited and couldn't wait to get started. He found the instructions easy to follow with little help needed from me and the end result was delicious."

"I got to take home a bag. I did not know what it was for. Then we got a video about it. All the pieces made a wiggle bot which was really good. I had to make an engine on a cup with batteries, wires and an eraser which made the cup dance and wriggle about."

"When we opened the bag from Little Manor, I thought what are we supposed to do with this. It looked very complicated. My child was very excited as inside were batteries, battery holders, a motor, rubber, plastic cup, tape all sorts of stuff. Then the instructions came on my phone, and we had to make a wiggle bot whatever that is. It turned to be brilliant activity for my child and his Dad to do together, such a good idea."

The Manor (Transitional Youth Project)

The Manor is a project for young people in the early years of secondary education aged 12-14, aimed at building confidence, resilience, citizenship, independence, and diverse young leaders. Young people have a direct input in creating the rules and parameters required to ensure the smooth running of the programme; they are creators, not just consumers, which helps them to build ownership of the programme. Activities include developmental workshops, volunteer tasks, self-led activities, and off-site trips. Participants also volunteer at Little Manor Supermarket.

During the summer holidays, 23 young people participated in The Manor, all of whom were from ethnic minorities. The programme included 67 sports, exercise, and leisure activities, including volunteering.

From evidence provided by registers, an online survey and observations by staff and volunteers we know that:

- 19 young people gained new friends
- 20 young people volunteered and supported their local community by distributing food to local families
- 19 young people volunteered to run a session teaching children how to build a go-kart followed by go-kart racing
- 15 young people expressed a desire to volunteer in the future
- 5 young people had their first experience of cycling on the road
- 20 young people took part in activities that they did not know existed therefore broadening their life-experiences
- 18 young people who participated in the self-defence workshop reported feeling more confident in their abilities should they find themselves in a confrontational situation
- 16 young people who attended the snake session reported feeling a sense of achievement
- 19 young people acknowledged that their listening "could be better" and believed that they had recognised this through some of the teambuilding activities
- 17 young people felt that they had become more tolerant of others
- 15 young people who participated in the Comic Drawing workshop felt that they had learnt new drawing techniques
- 19 young people felt they had a better comprehension of exploitation and County Lines as a result of participating in the Understanding Grooming and Exploitation Workshop

When registering the young people for this programme, we asked parents and the young people to disclose anything that might be helpful for us to know for our staff to give the best possible support to the young people. We became aware that the group had diverse needs and included:

- 1 young person coming from a household with historic domestic violence, Parents were in the process of getting divorced
- 1 young person experiencing undiagnosed seizures affecting their self-esteem
- 1 young person living with their family of 2 parents and 5 siblings in a two-bedroom flat with no garden
- 1 young person suffering from social anxiety
- 1 young person who had been bullied at school and online for three years
- 1 young person who had been bullied at school for three years before transferring to a new school
- 1 young person who was blind in one eye
- 1 young person whose parents had recently separated and was diagnosed with autism in 2019. This young person had attempted self-harm
- 2 young people whose social engagement outside of school is solely through social media
- 1 young person with ADHD and autism who had threatened self-harm
- 1 young person with dyspraxia
- 1 young person with suspected autism (parent seeking diagnosis)

The young people who have participated in this programme have developed skills, confidence, and networks. They have built a peer network and explored issues to which young people at this impressionable age are particularly vulnerable. We saw the young people meet new friends, become more confident and engage in positive, and impactful behaviours, and develop a sense of responsible citizenship.

"As a parent I feel that the transitional youth programme was very beneficial. It gave my son the opportunity to experience new adventures but also learn to build further relationships. As he is at the awkward age entering teenage years, it's hard finding activities that would keep him motivated. My son really enjoyed the transitional youth programme and the various activities he got to experience. He also enjoyed the independence of coming home by himself. There were a few team building programmes and activities such as the one that was held around consent which were informative but also age appropriate.

I believe the program has had a positive impact on my son as it gave him the opportunity to engage with his peers, it also building on his independence.

I don't think there are any improvements that can be made as the programme has been set up very well. There is a balance between the children having their independence and experiences with their peers, but also, they have the right level of supervision and support."
(S, Parent)

"Having older children, who have been to various playschemes when they were my daughter's age, I can honestly say I've been impressed with the quality of this programme. The trips are engaging like cinema, ice-skating, football, ropes course etc however, adding activities like holding live snakes, communication tasks and workshops like grooming, self-defence and voluntary work raised the programme to high level. My daughter learned about cohesive working with different ages and ethnicities. She learned practical skills such as building a go-kart and what materials/tool required. Volunteering made her understand that jobs can be done without payment – helping out for a valid reason. It would be impactful (in a non-covid time) if she could have done something in a foodbank so she could see exactly why people volunteer.

I would like to see debating workshops added to the programme. This would help with her shyness with public speaking.

It would be great to see the Transitional youth do something like a visit abroad to develop a better understanding of independence as a young person.

Overall, I am impressed with the activities offered and I am extremely grateful and feel privileged that my daughter was able to be a part of this."

(F, Parent)

"When the young people volunteered at the Supermarket, I noticed they gradually grew more confident as the day progressed. The dialogue between the young people and parents collecting the food visibly improved as they settled into the role. They were able to become empathetic to problems families have around food poverty and gained a valuable insight into the working environment."

(Stuart, Little Manor Supermarket Supervisor)

"The programme has helped my boy in so many ways. His social skills have improved, and he has also really matured since attending transitional youth. Every time he attends, he comes home having learnt something new which I think is really great. It is very nice to see children learning whilst also having fun.

The staff team are caring, and they helped my family, not just my son. I always felt like he was safe when he was there which is a relief because we do not live in a great area.

I cannot think of any improvements at the moment, but I will agree with my son in that he wants the programme to be available to children until they leave secondary school. I think they could really benefit from the programme (especially the workshops) during their early teens."

(K, Parent)

The Journey of a Young Person – Mason

(Kemora, Playworker)

Mason, aged 12, attended every session of The Manor during the summer holidays. We had spoken to Mason's mum prior to the programme commencing. Mason had been diagnosed with autism in Year 6. His Mum had made him aware of the diagnosis towards the end of Year 6 in preparation for secondary school. Mason had spent the last year struggling with his autism diagnosis, often commenting that he does not "fit in."

Mason's parents had also separated while he was in Year 6. The separation had not been amicable, and Mason had only seen his dad twice in the last year. This had led to Mason feeling rejected by his father because of his condition.

Mason does not participate in any extra-curricular activity.

Mason was enthusiastic about the programme from the first day. He contributed to the ground rules and the planning; however, he would sometimes feel overwhelmed in certain group situations. He would be heard to say, "No-one is listening to me!" When this happened, he would leave the room and find somewhere quiet to sit. Staff would then talk to Mason offering advice on how to deal with situations when he felt like he was not being heard. After chatting to a member of staff, he would re-enter the session, often appearing surprised at how welcome the group made him feel.

Instances of Mason removing himself from the group became less frequent as the summer progressed. It was evident that he was becoming much more comfortable with staff, opening up more about his emotions whenever he felt overwhelmed. Mason would often talk about people hurting his feelings. This usually came about when other young people were joking around. For example, on one occasion while playing pool, a young person removed a ball from the table as a joke. It was a while before anyone realised and while most of the group found this funny, Mason became upset, stating that rules were being broken and that it was not nice to trick people.

The group became aware that Mason's sense of humour was unlike theirs and recognising that he was sensitive to certain behaviours became more mindful of their actions when he was around.

Mason integrated with others more as the summer progressed. His participation in activities increased and he very much enjoyed the volunteering aspects of the programme.

When I asked Mason to list five things that he had learnt this summer he said:

- "I learnt how to make more friends."*
- "I am in charge of my happiness. Focusing on positive things helps with my happiness."*
- "I learnt how to serve parents in a shop and be patient with them even when they are late for their appointment."*
- "I know about different snakes and their environments."*
- "I learnt how to be a better teammate."*

The Thoughts of a Young Person – Mason

"I enjoyed meeting new people in the project.

I learnt about grooming and growing hormones and emotions which helped me. I feel more confident in my abilities especially after Thorpe Park.

I built better relationships with friends and found it easier to get along with them. The programme kept me busy during the summer as I was planning on spending most of the summer playing online with my friends but didn't really as I was attending the transitional youth.

I really enjoyed the supermarket volunteering task. Whilst handing out food I created a plan that started with the cans, as I figured out the tins will support the bottom of the bag. It also gave me the opportunity to help out in other ways.

I would take part in the programme again as I really enjoyed it."

(Mason, Participant)

Youth Work

Approximately 400 young people participated in our youth programmes during the year, across 6 programmes and our Young Facilitators model.

We received over 40 responses to our annual youth survey and like previous years young people highlighted that:

- They wanted more fun socials and a way to connect with other people
- Accredited training, paid opportunities are always welcome
- Employment, mental health, and education are still at the top of their concerns
- Almost 98% of participants developed their skills and confidence
- 100% would recommend Aston-Mansfield to their peers
- 100% gave staff 5 stars

Young Facilitators (YFs)

Our youth work model includes employing young people (18 to 25) to work as paid young facilitators, in developmental roles, usually lasting around 12 to 18 months. With support and training from more experienced youth workers, the young facilitators play a key role in engaging and supporting young people across all our youth programmes whilst co-producing and delivering activities, workshops and learning days.

"The YF role really helped me develop myself. I wasn't very good at admin before I got the job but Yokeu and Shanaz and the processes we had to follow means that I had no choice but to do admin every week.

It hasn't always been easy because I had other jobs and family commitments, but the flexibility of the role allowed me to do everything I needed to do.

I learnt how to work with groups, my confidence talking to people and in public increased and I think it was a steppingstone to getting into the field that I am in now, supporting young people to get into employment. The support that I received made me feel like I could make mistakes and it was always available, offline, out of hours, over dinner etc. One of the key things I have learnt is how to better listen and plan my time better and that has helped at work but also in my personal life."

Young People and Racial Injustice

65 young people benefited from the delivery of 4 activities addressing the topic of racial injustice – all of which were researched, planned, and delivered by 9 young people with support from our Young Facilitators

56 young people attended the activities which included a workshop with a speaker from the US embassy to speak about Malcom X, an intense discussion about the Sewell report and its implications for people of ethnic minority backgrounds in the UK, an East Asian and South Asian fusion cooking activity as well as a Book Club activity where the young people chose to read the Black Panther Comic and explore how black cultures, particularly from African countries were portrayed in movies and media.

Youth4Youth

Youth4Youth (Y4Y) is a leadership development scheme for young people from around Newham. A diverse group of young people from across Newham who may not ordinarily meet or befriend one another come together for a series of team building and skills development sessions. As part of their journey toward becoming a change agent in their community, young people plan and deliver events and campaigns at different scales growing their confidence, experience, and networks.

Y4Y is co-produced with young people, and we are committed to the ethos that those who are affected by a service are best placed to design it. We continuously worked alongside young people through focus groups and consultations to determine what our Learning Days should look like and what skills/additional training the young participants required. Young Facilitators played a key role in engaging and supporting each cohort of young people whilst also designing and implementing the best way to co-produce with the young participants on the project.

We recruited a diverse and motivated core group of Changemakers from across Newham, with representation from young males and females from Asian backgrounds (Bangladesh, Philippines, India, Pakistani, Sri Lanka) as well as representation from Black, White and Mixed Heritage (Jamaican, Nigerian, Ghanaian, St Lucian, English, Gambian) We also had one Lithuanian male and one female from Germany.

ASTON-MANSFIELD

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

182 young people benefited from the programme. 35 young changemakers received training on social action, teamwork, communication skills, decision making, goal setting, budgeting, and project management to equip them with the skills to deliver their own social action projects.

As part of their training the young people delivered mini social action projects to implement some of their learning and have an opportunity to deliver on a smaller scale to identify barriers and obstacles that may affect them when delivering their main social action projects. 30 external young people benefited from the mini social programmes.

Of the 31 young people responding to the end of programme evaluation survey, 87% reported that they had significantly developed their leadership qualities and 11% had indicated they had somewhat developed their leadership qualities. 78% said they were very confident to develop and run their own projects with the remaining indicating they were confident and somewhat confident. 80% of young people reporting improved social networks.

Every participant reported an increased sense of leadership, and increased understanding of how they can make change in their own lives and those of others. Confidence for every participant increased significantly in particular with their presenting skills and public speaking.

117 children and young people benefited from the main social action projects which were 2 family fun days raising awareness around mental health and environmental issues through the delivery of a range of themed activities and discussions.

Mental Health and Well Being Family Fun Day: The mental health group wanted to promote mental health and wellbeing for children, young people, families, and the wider community to combat the challenges of the Covid Pandemic. The Changemakers thought this cause was of immense importance given the current circumstances and they wanted to utilise this opportunity to really make an impact.

The family fun day was highly successful with a total of 83 members of the community attending of which 29 were adults, 21 were young people and 33 were children. The Changemakers selected a variety of wellness activities which they thought would be accessible to people of all ages ranging from arts and crafts, board games, cake decorating, henna tattooing, yoga and meditation, art therapy, food, face painting, bouncy castle as well as fun races and indoor/outdoor games to encourage families and communities to discover more well-being activities and do more together as families. Each activity station had information sheets and a quiz on mental health to help stimulate conversations around mental health and how to support each other as families and communities. The Changemakers prepared selfcare packs to be handed out on the day, they ensured there were items in the packs that were relevant to both adults and young people. The self-care packs were popular, and many adults said that they had not thought about providing self-care items for their children in the past but would now consider doing so. The Changemakers commissioned professionals to deliver the Yoga and meditation activities whilst they led on all the other activities. 100% of the participants we spoke to stated they enjoyed the event and felt encouraged to make more of a concerted effort to take care of their mental/physical health and well-being. 98% stated they would attend more mental health and well-being events, 98% stated they felt there was a need for events like this especially because of the Pandemic and 84% said they had a better idea of activities they could do with their families to tackle mental health and promote wellbeing.

The Environment Family Fun Day: The Changemakers in this group were passionate about the environment and wanted to raise awareness around some of the pressing environmental issues currently affecting the planet, in particular climate change and pollution. They decided on a variety of activities that would encourage children, young people, and adults to become more sustainable and reduce their carbon footprints. Activities ranged from planting your own herbs and vegetables to eating more healthily and reducing plastic packaging in supermarkets, designing your own tote bags to reduce use of plastic bags, making body scrubs from natural ingredients to reduce use of chemicals and plastic containers, food mileage quiz to educate people on how far some of their food travels to get to them hence encouraging them not to waste food and source more locally, info sheets on how to reduce carbon footprint and live a more sustainable lifestyle. These activities were combined with other fun activities like face painting, cake decorating, bouncy castle, henna tattoos and team games incorporating recycled materials to encourage different age groups to attend the event. The changemakers educated themselves on how to plant seeds and how to make body scrubs with natural ingredients so they could facilitate the activities themselves.

"I didn't realise just how easy it is to reduce your carbon footprint, you just have to do little things on a day-to-day basis which will have a big impact on the environment in the long run"

"Planting your own veg and herbs was really fun and a huge eye opener for me. I thought I needed to have a garden to do this, but I realised that you can grow some produce at home or even on a balcony and it won't be covered in pesticides. I find when I buy veg from the supermarket, I end up wasting a lot because I never use all the veg that comes in the packets"

"I really enjoyed designing my own tote bag- I will be using it as my shopping bag as of today. I always end up buying plastic bags at the supermarket, I will make sure I keep this tote bag in my pocket all the time"

97 members of the community attended the event of which 34 were adults, 25 were young people and 38 were children. 100% of the participants we spoke to stated they enjoyed the event and felt encouraged to make more changes towards a more sustainable lifestyle. 89% stated they would attend more events concerning environmental issues, 96% stated they felt there was a need for events like this due to the ongoing issues of climate change and pollution. 98% said they had a better idea of how they could make changes towards a more sustainable lifestyle.

S.K.Y – Skills, Knowledge in Youth

87 young people participated in our youth employability programme, learning transferable skills through engaging in learning days covering personal branding, interviews, and assessment centres, exploring careers and interests, confidence at work as well as developing their professional and social networks through networking events.

From the 87 youth participants, 10 young people completed a 3 month part time paid internship, 40 completed 2 weeks work experience and 20 received 1-2-1 coaching from a volunteer positive coaching specialist to help them boost their confidence and identify barriers preventing them from accessing employment opportunities.

Some 91% of the young people experienced significant progress through their participation on the SKY programme, and 100% stated that overall the SKY programme has helped them improve their skills and knowledge for employment.

We emphasised to young people that being on the SKY programme is indicative of their increased motivation and wanting to learn behaviours that will enable them to build resilience, have a positive attitude and ultimately succeed.

61 young people felt that they had significantly improved their motivation, attitude, and behaviours.

At the beginning of the programme, many of the young people felt demotivated when it came to applying for work opportunities as they did not know what career paths they wanted to pursue, many were applying for work opportunities but were not passing their interviews and others felt they did not have enough work experience to get them short listed for an interview. We used this information to ensure that our employability skills Development Days were varied so that they could benefit young people who were in various stages of their employment/career journey, ranging from understanding and exploring sectors to CV development, networking and branding, interviews/assessment centres and professionalism in the workplace.

Feedback demonstrates that the Development Days really helped the young people improve their understanding of what skills employers look for. Young people developed skills that would help them stand out in interviews/assessment centres, feel confident at work when it comes to telephone/email and general office etiquette, professionally brand themselves on social platforms like LinkedIn and Twitter and develop their CVs by exploring their own key skills and showcasing them through their everyday life/work experiences and hobbies in a concise and professional manner.

Over 80% of the young people felt that they had significantly improved their communication, self-management, job search, networking and interview skills.

100% of the young people who took part in the two-week work experience and 3 month part time paid internship opportunities stated that they had significantly developed their employability skills and were now in a position where they could list new skills and experiences on their CV's and use work based examples to highlight their skills in interviews.

"I was grateful that I was able to work with different departments during my internship placement, as I was able to pick up lots of new skills and also had an insight into different roles ranging from finance, to I.T to Comms, I feel a lot more confident about my CV now, as I can put down more skills".

A few young people had been on other employability programmes, but all have said that they appreciated the continued support that SKY staff were able to provide, and all participants indicated increased understanding of key competencies and skills that employers are looking for and more importantly, how to find examples from their lives.

The programme evaluation highlighted how impactful every component of the programme was in helping young people discover roles/sectors they had never come across before which complimented their interests and skills. Some young people found themselves wanting to pursue a completely different sector after feeling stuck and unsure of their current roles/direction. This played a significant role in helping the young people feel motivated and positive about their future.

95% of the young people who had received coaching with a positive psychology coach felt there was a significant change in their motivation, behaviour and attitude towards their career aspirations after they received 1 to 1 support to overcome some of the barriers they were currently facing when it came to accessing employment opportunities. Many of these young people were struggling to get shortlisted for interviews or pass interviews. Having received support from a coach and learning from the Development Days these young people have managed to get shortlisted for interviews and some have gone on to receive paid work.

"The coaching sessions have helped me build my self-esteem and learn how to positively respond to rejection. When I first joined the programme, I was convinced I would not be able to get a job outside of the retail sector as I kept getting rejected, with every rejection it took me longer to apply for the roles I really wanted because I would dwell over the rejection. My coach taught me about resilience and how to ask for feedback after interviews so that I would have a better understanding of the areas I needed to work on. The coaching combined with the Interview Skills Development Day really helped me overcome this fear. I feel like I understand interview criteria so much better and have the confidence to talk about my skills and experiences."

82% of the young people indicated that they have significantly increased their networks and support from the SKY programme and have attributed it to increased social and professional networks as well as the ongoing support from the staff.

A substantial number of young people expressed social isolation concerns due to Covid-19 lockdowns, in addition to lack of opportunities to build professional relationships due to in person networking events they had previously signed up to being cancelled. Online networking events with just their peers at the beginning of the programme enabled young people with similar experiences and/or circumstances to come together as equals, share their struggles and create a safe space to offer informal support and share opportunities with their like-minded peers.

In addition to peer networking events, the programme also delivered networking events with professionals across different sectors providing young people with an opportunity to listen to their career journeys, hear about different roles and sectors they may not have come across before and it also provided them with an opportunity to leverage relationships with other professionals.

"It was really interesting to listen to the career journeys of the professionals, I realised that quite a few people did not pursue a career in what they studied at university and some people have jumped from sector to sector until they found something that they really enjoyed. I collected quite a few business cards and I will be contacting these professionals for apprenticeship opportunities and adding them to my connections on LinkedIn"

A combination of peer and professional networking events helped to reduce feelings of isolation, it provided support and a safe space for the young people to become more confident, capable, and informed. The young people were provided with a platform to meet new people, discover relevant opportunities, and establish connections and friendships.

Benefits of Development Days

In her application to sign up to the S.K.Y programme, SE stated that after finishing college she desperately wanted to get a job as she wanted to build up her finances before attending university. She had made the decision to wait 1 - 2 years before going to university as she was not 100% sure what course to study due to not knowing what career path she wanted to pursue. Given how expensive university is she wanted to start a course once she was sure that it would help her work towards a career path, she is happy with.

SE mentioned she had never held a job previously despite making multiple applications for retail, receptionist, and administration roles. She would struggle to get shortlisted and when she did progress onto the interview stage she would fail. After being rejected 7 times she lost confidence in herself and the motivation to continue applying for work. Her friend's mum convinced her to join the SKY programme to build her employability skills.

SE attended all 4 Development Days and 2 networking events. She particularly benefited from the CV clinic and Interview Skills/Assessment Centre Development Days where she learned about interview criteria's, scoring sheets and how to successfully answer skills-based questions using the STARE method with plenty of opportunities to practice with peers and assessors.

"The STARE method is amazing; it really helps you score high points and give well rounded answers showing what you have learnt from your experiences – I feel so much more confident about going into interviews now."

Benefits of Coaching

FA had four 45-60 minute bi-weekly sessions with a positive psychology coach. They wanted to build their confidence, reduce stress, and improve their time management. They had labelled themselves as lazy, disorganised and suffered from low self-esteem. Whilst there were many positive outcomes, the most significant breakthrough that FA made was the realisation that they unknowingly and regularly participated in sleep revenge procrastination. In addition, they experienced much guilt about not having quality time with friends and family. They felt overwhelmed by their life and responsibilities.

Through coaching exercises during our sessions, FA came to realise that there were choices in their situation. They were able to identify and implement time-saving strategies tested between sessions. Coaching helped them realise their sleep revenge procrastination was a form of self-sabotage due to their chaotic schedule. By getting more organised FA was able to plan their rest and relaxation time, reducing stress and anxiety. Achieving smaller goals each week increased their confidence and momentum to create and achieve bigger goals. Being more organised, not feeling tired and sluggish throughout the day, and achieving their goals improved their self-esteem. Within two months, FA found their productivity had improved and did not think the label 'lazy' was a true reflection of themselves.

Benefits of S.K.Y

During her application to the programme, KT, a young black African woman, stated she was looking for employment as she had finished her degree almost 11 months ago and was really struggling to find work. She had made multiple applications to a number of job opportunities and would either not get shortlisted or rejected after the interview process, she mentioned that her confidence had taken a hit and she was anxious about her prospects.

Although her degree was in Law, she no longer wants to pursue a career in that sector as she found it difficult and did not enjoy studying for it. KT admitted that she had only studied Law as she had no idea what career path to pursue but knew that Law was a reputable degree hence could help her find a well-paid job.

KT signed up to the programme so she could build on her employability skills, feel confident about interviews, and learn more about what it is that employers look for.

How has this programme helped her? KT received a lot of hands on support from the programme. She initially went through her skills set to identify what kind of skills she had and what kind of things she liked to do. She also took part in Learning Days that helped her explore different sectors, learn about networking and personal branding as well as how to be successful at Assessment Centres and implement good Interview Techniques. She took part in a two week work experience with Aston-Mansfield as she was intrigued about the Youth Sector – during her placement she supported our Youth4Youth programme where she helped facilitate sessions around team building, communications, project management and leadership. Helping to facilitate these sessions also helped her develop her own skills in these areas.

KT also received 1 to 1 Coaching from a positive psychology coach to help her identify some of the barriers preventing her from accessing employment opportunities, she fed back that the sessions were helpful and enabled her to set SMART goals and build resilience to help her cope with rejection.

During the final stage of the programme KT successfully applied for a paid part time internship opportunity with a community and youth organisation. She was thrilled to apply for a post she found interesting and felt confident that she would do well in the tasks allocated to her due to all the employability skills learning days/opportunities she had accessed during the programme. She mentioned that the programme had helped her identify a sector that she felt excited about and feel more confident when it came to completing applications and attending interviews.

In her application to sign up to the S.K.Y programme, SE a young Asian Indian woman, stated that she had graduated in 2019 and was really struggling to find full time work. Although her degree was in History, she had decided that she did not want to pursue a career in that field and had been taking on part time retail work and zero hour contracts so that she could support her family financially. Unfortunately, during the first lockdown SE was made redundant from her part time job and has since been struggling with her mental health and confidence in her ability to find a secure full-time job in a field which she is interested in and has potential to grow. SE was eager and willing to develop her employability skills, build on her professional networks and work on the necessary qualities to bring out her latent potential which she believed could be done through the S.K.Y programme.

SE attended all three Development Days (DD) and Networking Events. She particularly benefited from the Exploring Sectors Day as this was an area with which she was really struggling. She was encouraged to think about her current skills set and what things she enjoyed and felt passionate about, this enabled her to discover and explore new sectors and job roles that she had never seen before that suited her interests and skills better.

"I have really enjoyed all of the Development Days so far- I feel I now have a better understanding of what kind of job roles I would like to apply for and feel a lot more confident when it comes to completing application forms and attending interviews - It feels like I almost have a "Cheat Sheet" in regards to how I can score maximum points in interviews and assessment centres. I have been sharing some of these tips with my friends and family so they too can feel better about the process"

"Not only have I built on my professional networks I have also built on my social network by making new friends with likeminded people from the programme, some of whom have encouraged me to join another project delivered by Aston Mansfield called Youth4Youth, as a result I am now in the process of putting in an application to become a Young Facilitator with Aston Mansfield"

Aston Mansfield Youth Collective

Eight young people were recruited onto the Youth Collective Panel to:

- Support fundraising bids and identify key themes
- Shape services and programmes
- Raise the profile of Aston Mansfield

Activate

Eighteen young people participated in activities/workshops focused on providing a safe space for young people to be creative and innovative in finding solutions to health inequalities, busting myths, feeling confident in using and contributing towards the development of new approaches to health services and discussing barriers to keeping safe and having vaccinations as well as exploring how to overcome difficult conversations with peers and family.

Just Connect

Thirty-six young participants attended a combination of virtual/face to face activities which fall under 3 main outcomes: Learning and training, emotional support (1 -2-1 and group) and social activities. The activities increase resilience and wellbeing, increase skills and knowledge, help young people feel heard, valued, and recognised as well as increase growth in self-belief and confidence.

Community Connectors

Community Connectors support service users within Newham Primary Care Network (PCN) who are experiencing mental health difficulties. We do this by assisting people to access sources of support, which are provided by a range of organisations, including the Voluntary and Community Sector. This includes advice and support around housing, immigration, welfare benefits, financial advice, food banks as well as help to overcome loneliness, or learn new skills, and attend support groups and social activities. Our holistic interventions focus on supporting service users to address their social needs and increase their independence, resilience, confidence, and self-esteem, which has a positive impact on their overall wellbeing.

We have provided support for 108 service users and in certain cases we have extended our support to their close relatives.

Case study of support

A family of 5 (mother, father & three children) were evicted from their property in Newham in January after receiving an eviction letter from the London Borough of Newham (LBN). They became homeless and had to share one room in a nearby hostel. Additionally, the father was facing deportation after being released from Prison and could be deported at any time. They declined an offer from LBN to move them to Birmingham because the family life has always been in London. LBN revoked their tenancy contract, closed their case, treating them as intentionally making themselves homeless. The family was referred to us to support with their housing situation. Through our intervention, LBN agreed to review the case and were able to rehouse the family to more suitable accommodation in a neighbouring borough. We followed up with the mother to ensure that the family were able to access their local community support/resources. We also noted that, during our intervention the mother's depressive symptoms deteriorated and psychological support was declined due to her being homeless. However, the mother was successfully referred to Connect Newham for emotional support. By supporting her accessing local services along with regular motivational sessions, the mother received the appropriate wraparound support which enabled her to overcome barriers in her daily life and achieve independence.

Voluntary Sector Capacity Building - Fitter Finance

Funded by City Bridge and London Borough of Newham, the Fitter Finance programme aims to improve the financial management of micro and small community and voluntary sector organisations in Newham. The programme expanded during the pandemic, as it became clear that organisations needed practical to apply for funding, particularly from Trusts and Foundations.

We continued to deliver virtual one-to-one sessions for community groups, CICs and charities within the borough. We delivered 36 of these sessions to over 20 groups. These sessions focused on developing funding applications or related fundraising support. Due to the nature of the pandemic and changing guidelines, we did not host any of the planned larger scale community focused events or workshops. Instead, utilising the material already created for the programme we produced bite-sized digital training sessions on fundraising, financial systems, reporting and recording, gift aid, and five others. These videos are now available on our website and YouTube channel.

We continued to deliver the partnership work that started in mid-2020, with approximately 50 phone calls made to smaller organisations in Newham, and continued to provide signposting, templates, advice, and helpful tips. Due to our telephone support, the call for urgent fundraising support was greater than expected, and volunteers could no longer keep up with the demand. Plus, the pandemic world was changing, and these volunteer fundraisers were slowly returning to work. The direct funding support tested in late 2020 and funded by the council continued into 2021. The test programme to provide direct fundraising support through consultants was later expanded to

ASTON-MANSFIELD

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

offer a second programme of more in-depth fundraising and development support for organisations with no structures or systems in place. The second programme was designed to support just eight organisations split between Aston-Mansfield and Compost London. Through both programmes we were able to help secure over £120K for 12 groups and develop key systems and procedures for a further four organisations. These included financial policies, safeguarding, project plans and M&E reporting systems.

During this year, the main difference in our work has been the continued enabling of small groups to deliver their work differently. We continued to inform small groups of the Newham Food Alliance that supported organisations offering food packages and the corporate support they could get during this period. We helped to connect groups supporting those with no legal access to funds (International students) to ensure a more coordinated approach. We offered funding insight and expertise around transforming services to provide digital and online activities. Much of the difference we made was engaging with local groups to offer help through direct fundraising and organisational development.

Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust (AMCT) Seed Grants Scheme

We administered the AMCT Seed Grants Scheme, awarding £8.5K to 10 organisations. The seed grants are for small ethnic minority community groups and charities that have an annual income of £10,000 or less. Groups must be based in Newham, with a focus on supporting and promoting health and wellbeing for Newham residents. Organisations receiving a Seed Grant also make use of the support available from the Aston-Mansfield Fitter Finance team to help their organisation to grow and become more sustainable.

Volunteering

"I haven't worked in a long time and lost my confidence. What I like about volunteering at Aston-Mansfield is that I'm treated as part of the team."

"When I started volunteering, I had anxiety problems. I needed a lot of reassurance and doubted myself a lot. Keeping a work diary has shown me how much I have grown. I have been given more responsibility, and I now help to train new volunteers when they start."

"Volunteering at Aston-Mansfield allows me to practically apply the theory I am learning at university. Volunteering remotely allows me to give back even with a hectic workload."

"During my interview, I was told that I am more than my diagnosis, that I could go to my line manager or the volunteer officer if I need help. I feel accepted here."

We continue to provide a range of bespoke volunteering opportunities, with around 45 people volunteering with us during the year. Our volunteering opportunities included:

- 12-month international volunteering roles within our children's and youth teams
- Graduate and postgraduate volunteering in our finance department
- Postgraduate remote coaching opportunities
- Administration and Retail volunteering opportunities

According to national statistics, the average volunteer who consistently volunteers with an organisation for a sustained period tends to be older and educated. This is not the case with Aston-Mansfield. Our volunteers come from diverse backgrounds, including neurodiverse, long-term unemployed, undergraduates, and postgraduates to those volunteers with few to no qualifications.

Since the pandemic, we have seen a greater need for volunteers to be supported in building their skills, confidence, and resilience as they serve the community by volunteering with us. Volunteers are asked to keep work journals to track their goals, challenges, and accomplishments. This reflective log boosts confidence and becomes a valuable document to refer to when the volunteers edit their CVs, complete application forms etc.

As an organisation, we work in partnership with work coaches, occupational therapists, and community connectors to provide additional support for our vulnerable volunteers, particularly those who are neurodiverse or have mental health issues.

ASTON-MANSFIELD

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The statement of financial activities shows a net income for the year of £5,918 (2021: Net expenditure of £106,684). Income increased by 4.37% in the year to £1,619,019. This increase is mainly attributable to funding from grants and donations. As the charity reopens following the lockdown, total expenditure increased by 11.70% compared with prior year.

Other than bank deposits the charity does not hold investments.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees review on a quarterly basis the charity's development and operational plans, future funding needs and its overall resilience and financial stability in light of its ability to meet its charitable objectives for the foreseeable future (usually a period upto 3 years).

The Trustees' consideration takes into account the major risks to the organisation – see Risk Management below. Additionally, the Trustees consider the need to ensure viability of the charity beyond the immediate future, absorb setbacks and be able to take advantage of opportunities and new initiatives.

As discussed in the Trustees' Report, Aston Mansfield Charitable Trust ("AMCT") a connected charity (see Note 19 to the Accounts):

- is working with Newham Clinical Commissioning Group and the GP / Primary Care Centre at the Aston-Mansfield Community Centre, Manor Park; and
- has commissioned an initial plan for the redevelopment of the Durning Hall Site

It is anticipated these impending capital and development works may have some short to medium term operational impact reducing revenues from existing property assets and requiring incremental staff and other costs to continue service provision without use of the Froud Centre or Durning Hall.

As this is likely to absorb brought forward reserves the Trustees have determined to adopt, during this transitional phase of investment in the future, a "zero level" reserves policy.

AMCT has historically provided the charity with an annual grant with a non-binding preference from the donor for this to be spent on special projects, capacity building or future projects as determined by the trustees. In view of operational impact of AMCT's capital and development works AMCT has indicated that it will additionally support the charity in meeting its charitable objectives to the extent revenues are reduced or costs increased as a result of development at the Aston-Mansfield Community Centre or consequent to the re-development of the Forest Gate site.

The charity's reserve position as at 31 March 2022 is disclosed in Note 18 to the Accounts. At 31 March 2022 the charity held total funds of £1,798,747 (2021 - £1,792,829) of which £1,447,416 (2021 - £1,474,125) represents the Endowment Fund, Restricted Fund £210,314 (2021- £153,103) and Unrestricted Fund £141,017 (2021 - £165,301).

ASTON-MANSFIELD

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

For the reasons explained above, and having considered the charity's income, expenditure and risks including Covid-19, the trustees are satisfied that the charity would remain viable for the foreseeable future even if no free reserves are held.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Our plans for implementing 'Creating the Future', our strategy which is outlined earlier in this report, include

- Focusing all our work on children, young people, and families – both direct delivery and signposting
- Continuing to grow our work with children and young people
- Building our relationship with the GP/Primary Care practice now located at the Aston-Mansfield Community Centre and developing a community-based health and wellbeing programmes
- Moving away, over time, from providing community space in some areas
- Working with the Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust on the redevelopment of the Forest Gate site
- Improving the financial sustainability of the organisation, by improving the profitability of the property assets, and the ways in which the Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust property assets are managed

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Aston-Mansfield is a registered charity (number 220085) and a company limited by guarantee (number 48350). The charity is governed by its Articles of Association. These were revised in the light of current legislation and adopted by the members on 14 April 2010.

We have between 7 and 15 trustees at any one time, two of whom are appointed by Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust. We aim to have a Board whose skills and diversity mix fit with Aston-Mansfield's strategic direction, core activities and regulatory requirements. Trustees are appointed through an open recruitment process, which includes an interview with the Chair, and at least one other Trustee, followed by confirmation by the Board.

There is an induction process for new trustees which includes an induction pack, introductory sessions with the Chief Executive and management team, and project visits. New trustees are supported by more experienced trustees through a 'buddying' system.

The trustees meet at least six times a year. Trustees are updated on significant regulatory and sector developments, and participate in training on core issues, for example safeguarding.

The day to day management of the charity is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer who consults regularly with the Chairman and reports to the trustees at each of their meetings.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:

- An annual review of the principal risks and uncertainties that the charity faces. This includes assessing the key success factors, critical dependencies, constraint factors and key milestones and performance indicators for the major changes encompassed in our strategy, Creating the Future, and an analysis of the highest impact risks to which Aston-Mansfield is exposed
- The establishment of policies, systems, and procedures to mitigate risks
- Strategic and operational plans and an annual budget, and progress reporting against plans and budget
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise or mF effectively, and that the charity will be funded adequately for the foreseeable future.

ASTON-MANSFIELD

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

PAY POLICY FOR SENIOR STAFF

The directors consider that the Board of Directors, who are the charity's trustees, and the Chief Executive Officer comprise the key management personnel of the charity, in charge of directing and controlling, running, and operating the charity on a day to day basis. All trustees give of their time freely, and no trustee received remuneration in the year. Details of trustees' expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in note 13 and note 19 of the accounts.

The pay of the Chief Executive is reviewed by the trustees annually, and a Remuneration Committee, whose role includes setting the remuneration of the Chief Executive, was established in July 2018. Any increase is based on benchmarking against pay levels in other comparator charities, and performance against agreed objectives.

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 17 of The Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission in determining the activities undertaken by the charity.

The charity's charitable purpose is detailed in its objects, which are to develop, for the public benefit, the community wealth of East London and promote a diverse and inclusive society in which all are free to participate.

Delivery of public benefit is achieved through direct provision of services through the charity's work with children, young people, and families and through the use of its community buildings. The charity is actively engaged in working in partnership with other voluntary sector organisations, and the local authority to ensure an enhanced quality of life to members of the community.

FUNDRAISING PRACTICE AND PERFORMANCE

Aston-Mansfield's fundraising is largely focused on raising funds from Trusts and Foundations and earning income from the public through charity shop sales. The main source of income raised from the public is trading activity through the charity shop. Hence the charity is not signed up to any voluntary fundraising regulation. Aston-Mansfield staff and volunteers undertake all fundraising activity, and there have been no complaints received by Aston-Mansfield about its fundraising activities in the current or previous year.

ASTON-MANSFIELD

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

SISTER CHARITY

Aston-Mansfield has a sister charity, Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust (AMCT) to which Aston-Mansfield is connected. The two charities have similar objects, which encompass supporting and developing disadvantaged communities in East London.

Aston-Mansfield achieves its impact through the direct provision of services to children and young people and families, and through renting space in the community buildings to other groups and organisations in the not for profit sector. Additionally, it provides resources, expertise and training to other groups and organisations in the not for profit sector, thus enabling those organisations to deliver their services to their clients and communities. The Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust is also a Registered Social Landlord, with Aston-Mansfield acting as the managing agent for its social housing

The two charities are separate organisations, each with their own Charity Commission registration numbers, governance arrangements and financial management processes and procedures. The Aston-Mansfield Board currently has 11 Trustees, 4 of whom are Trustees of AMCT. The AMCT Board currently has 7 Trustees, 3 of whom are not a Trustee of Aston-Mansfield. We believe this balance of shared knowledge and independence is beneficial for both organisations. Board meetings are held and minuted separately. It should be noted that Aston-Mansfield prepares and reports on completely separate Accounts with its own reserves and a clear Reserves Policy.

As Aston-Mansfield's work meets AMCT's funding criteria, the charity applies to AMCT for a grant on an annual basis. The size of the grant awarded depends on several factors including the level of disposable income available to AMCT, the performance of Aston-Mansfield in the previous year, and the areas of work for which the grant is sought. Aston-Mansfield reports regularly on its performance to AMCT. AMCT also awards grants to other charities, through an open application process, based on defined priorities and funding criteria.

The charity remains grateful to AMCT for its generosity in this matter, but recognises this arrangement is dependent on several factors, not least the current economic climate and property markets, and current support is no guarantee of future support. Aston-Mansfield acts as the managing agent for several AMCT's properties, and this enables Aston-Mansfield to spend more of its voluntary income on direct work with its beneficiary groups.

Whilst Aston-Mansfield is extremely grateful to AMCT for the continued support of its work, the Trustees recognise this support is agreed on an annual basis and can never be guaranteed. Aston-Mansfield is therefore continually seeking new sources of voluntary income to guarantee the future of its services.

ASTON-MANSFIELD

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of the Aston Mansfield for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time of the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as we are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

In preparing the Trustees Report, the Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption available to small companies and have not prepared a strategic report.

Approved by the Board on 13 September 2022 and signed on their behalf by:


C C Keen
Chairman

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Aston-Mansfield for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheets, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of the charitable company's net movement in funds, including the income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report (which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report (which incorporates the directors' report).

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the charitable company; or
- the charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 22, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Based on our understanding of the charitable company and the environment in which it operates, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to regulatory requirements charities and companies in England and Wales, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, income tax and payroll tax.

We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls), and determined that the principal risks were related to posting inappropriate journal entries to revenue and management bias in accounting estimate and application of controls around authorisation of expenditure and payments. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Inspecting correspondence with regulators and tax authorities;
- Discussions with management including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulation and fraud;
- Evaluating management's controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities;
- Identifying and testing journals, in particular journal entries postings by unusual users or with unusual descriptions; and
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their critical accounting estimates.

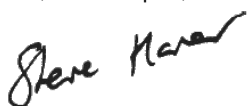
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ASTON-MANSFIELD

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Steven Harper
Senior Statutory Auditor
for and on behalf of Haysmacintyre LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors

Date: 24 October 2022

10 Queen Street Place
London
EC4R 1AG

ASTON-MANSFIELD

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

		Endowment Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Income	Notes					
Income from donations and legacies						
Donations		-	-	20,128	20,128	146
Income from charitable activities						
Grants	3	-	352,412	703,178	1,055,590	1,188,225
Project income		-	-	5,368	5,368	1,050
Rents and facility hire	4	-	-	374,692	374,692	182,664
Income from other trading activities						
Shop sales		-	-	39,070	39,070	6,700
Other income	5	-	-	124,171	124,171	172,206
Total income		-	352,412	1,266,607	1,619,019	1,550,991
Expenditure						
Expenditure on raising funds						
Fundraising		-	-	(79,511)	(79,511)	(76,702)
Shop operating costs		-	-	(39,046)	(39,046)	(43,526)
Expenditure on charitable activities						
Lifelong learning		-	(130,759)	(353,585)	(484,344)	(403,089)
Healthy living		-	(76,258)	(25,010)	(101,268)	(64,825)
Community development		-	(88,184)	(23,699)	(111,883)	(115,232)
Community buildings		(27,009)	-	(770,040)	(797,049)	(740,753)
Total expenditure	6	(27,009)	(295,201)	(1,290,891)	(1,613,101)	(1,444,127)
Net income/(expenditure)		(27,009)	57,211	(24,284)	5,918	106,864
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(27,009)	57,211	(24,284)	5,918	106,864
Fund balances as at 1 April 2021		1,474,425	153,103	165,301	1,792,829	1,685,965
FUND BALANCES AT 31 MARCH 2022		£1,447,416	£210,314	£141,017	£1,798,747	£1,792,829

There were no recognised gains and losses other than those stated above.

No separate Summary Income and Expenditure Account has been produced as this statement incorporates all Income and Expenditure. Net income for the purposes of Companies Act 2006 excludes income and expenditure in respect of endowment funds.

Excluding movements on endowment funds, net surplus for the year was £32,927 (2021: net surplus £133,873).

A full comparative Statement of Financial Activities is included at note 22.

The notes on pages 29 to 44 form part of these financial statements.

ASTON-MANSFIELD

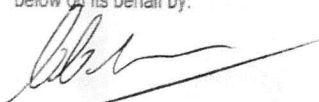
Company Number: 48350

BALANCE SHEET

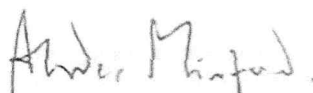
AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	£	2022	£	£	2021	£
FIXED ASSETS							
Tangible assets	9			1,643,372			1,673,770
CURRENT ASSETS							
Stocks and work in progress		407			347		
Debtors	10	125,958			66,416		
Cash at bank and in hand		204,348			265,732		
		<u>330,713</u>			<u>332,495</u>		
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	11	(175,338)			(213,436)		
NET CURRENT ASSETS				<u>155,375</u>			<u>119,059</u>
NET ASSETS				<u>£1,798,747</u>			<u>£1,792,829</u>
Funds:							
Endowment Fund	15			1,447,416			1,474,425
Restricted Fund	16,20			210,314			153,103
Unrestricted Fund	17			141,017			165,301
TOTAL NET ASSETS AT 31 MARCH 2022	18			<u>£1,798,747</u>			<u>£1,792,829</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by Board of the Trustees on 13 September 2022 and were signed below on its behalf by:



Christopher C Keen
Chairman



Alex Minford
Treasurer

The notes on pages 29 to 44 form part of these financial statements.

ASTON-MANSFIELD

CASHFLOW STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
CASH USED/GENERATED IN OPERATING ACTIVITIES	12	(61,384)	168,058
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	9	-	(730)
(DECREASE)/INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS IN THE YEAR		(61,384)	167,328
<i>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</i>			
Cash balances at 1 April 2021		265,732	98,404
CASH BALANCES AT 31 MARCH 2022		£204,348	£265,732

The notes on pages 29 to 44 form part of these financial statements.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

Accounting Basis

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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) (second edition, effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Aston-Mansfield meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s). These financial statements have been drawn up in the historical accounting basis, except that certain freehold properties are carried at valuation.

The financial statements incorporate the assets and liabilities of The Lady Trower Trust (Registered Charity number 303172) under a charity commission scheme dated 1994.

The accounts are prepared in pounds sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

Preparation of accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees consider there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The review of our financial position, reserves levels and future plans gives Trustees confidence the charity remains a going concern for the foreseeable future.

In reaching this conclusion, the trustees have considered the impact of Covid-19 on the Charity and have reviewed cash flow forecasts covering a period of more than one year from the date of approval of these accounts

Critical accounting judgements and estimates

In preparing these financial statements, management has made judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of the charities accounting policies and the reported assets, liabilities, income and expenditure and the disclosures made in the financial statements. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. No significant estimates, judgements or assumptions have been applied in the preparation of these financial statements.

Income recognition

Income from shop sales, rents and facility hire and management consultancy fees are accounted for when receivable. Grants are accounted for when the charity becomes entitled to the funding and donations are accounted for when received.

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that 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.

Direct costs, including directly attributable salaries, are allocated on an actual basis to the relevant areas of programme activity. Overheads and other salaries are allocated between expense headings on the basis of time spent.

Support costs which include central office administration are allocated across the categories of cost of raising funds', charitable activities and governance costs. The basis of allocation is set out in note 7 c). Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements relating to the general running of the charity, including costs of strategic planning for the longer term development of the charity.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost in the statement of financial activity.

Fixed Assets

Buildings are depreciated at a rate of 2% per annum.

Other assets are depreciated, in equal annual instalments, over their economic lives at the following rates:

Electronic equipment	25%
Furniture and other equipment	15%
Motor vehicles	25%
Froud Centre Adventure Playground	10%

Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments, including trade and other debtors and creditors are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost, on a first-in-first-out basis, and net realisable value.

Operating leases

Rentals payable are charged on a time basis over the term of the lease.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Foreign currency translation

The charities functional and presentation currency is pound sterling. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. All differences are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Employee benefits

- Short term benefits
Short term benefits including holiday pay are recognised as an expense in the period in which the service is received.
- Employee termination benefits
Termination benefits are accounted for on an accrual basis and in line with FRS 102.
- Pension scheme
Aston-Mansfield operates a defined contribution pension scheme for the benefit of its employees. The assets of the scheme are held independently from those of Aston-Mansfield in an independently administered fund. The pensions costs charged in the financial statements represent the contributions payable during the year.

Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are:

- **Unrestricted funds**

These are general funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

- **ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

- **Restricted funds**

These are funds subject to specific trusts generally declared by the donor or funds raised for a specific purpose.

- **Endowment funds**

These are permanent funds and must be held indefinitely consisting of two sites of land and property. They are not expendable. However, one of the endowed assets may be changed, for instance the proceeds arising from the sale of the property might be invested in other suitable forms of endowed investment or in the other endowed property. These funds arise from the amalgamation of The Lady Trower Trust with those of the charity in 1994.

Taxation

The charity's activities are exempt from income tax and corporation tax. The charity is registered for Value Added Tax. Certain of the charity's activities are exempt or non-business activities for Value Added Tax purposes and consequently the charity is unable to reclaim all the Value Added Tax it incurs on its purchases. Expenditure in these financial statements is therefore shown inclusive of Value Added Tax suffered.

- **LEGAL STATUS**

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of a winding up is limited to £0.50.

3. INCOME FROM GRANTS	2022	2021
	£	£
Grant income classified within income from charitable activities		
Aston Mansfield Charitable Trust	586,927	719,097
Local government	46,455	133,557
Other statutory bodies	156,572	162,689
Corporate bodies	127,223	170,632
Trusts and Livery companies	138,413	2,250
	<u>£1,055,590</u>	<u>£1,188,225</u>

Income attributable to fundraising efforts is £444,721 (2021: £383,770).

4. RENTS AND SIMILAR INCOME	2022	2021
	£	£
Property rental income	336,694	144,312
Wayleave income	37,982	37,982
Facility hire	16	370
	<u>£374,692</u>	<u>£182,664</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

5.	OTHER INCOME			2022 £	2021 £
	Cost recoveries			15,568	16,591
	HMRC Coronavirus JRS			28,895	113,869
	Insurance claim			77,663	29,000
	Historical credit write back			31	12,386
	Sundries			2,014	360
				<u>£124,171</u>	<u>£172,206</u>
6.	EXPENDITURE	Staff Costs £	Support Costs £	Other direct Costs £	Total 2022 £
a)	Analysis of total expenditure				
	Cost of raising funds				
	Fundraising	69,542	9,969	-	79,511
	Shop operating costs	33,500	5,546	-	39,046
		<u>103,042</u>	<u>15,515</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>118,557</u>
	Charitable activities				
	Unrestricted funds				
	Lifelong learning	266,806	68,014	18,765	353,585
	Healthy Living	18,066	6,944	-	25,010
	Community development	12,154	5,615	5,930	23,699
	Community buildings	428,543	341,497	-	770,040
		<u>725,569</u>	<u>422,070</u>	<u>24,695</u>	<u>1,172,334</u>
	Restricted funds				
	Lifelong learning	65,926	27,885	36,948	130,759
	Healthy Living	59,331	16,927	-	76,258
	Community development	32,053	36,833	19,298	88,184
	Community buildings	-	-	-	-
		<u>157,310</u>	<u>81,645</u>	<u>56,246</u>	<u>295,201</u>
	Endowment Funds				
	Community buildings	-	27,009	-	27,009
		<u>-</u>	<u>27,009</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,009</u>
	Total expenditure 2022	<u>985,921</u>	<u>546,239</u>	<u>80,941</u>	<u>1,613,101</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

6. EXPENDITURE (continued)							Direct Costs £	Head Office £	Total 2022 £					
b) Analysis of staff costs														
Cost of raising funds														
Fundraising							69,542	-	69,542					
Shop operating costs							33,500	-	33,500					
Charitable activities														
Unrestricted funds														
Lifelong learning							160,561	106,245	266,806					
Healthy living							-	18,066	18,066					
Community development							-	12,154	12,154					
Community buildings							322,130	106,413	428,543					
Central services							242,878	(242,878)	-					
Restricted funds														
Lifelong learning							65,926	-	65,926					
Healthy living							59,331	-	59,331					
Community development							32,053	-	32,053					
Endowment fund														
Community buildings							-	-	-					
Total staff costs 2022							£985,921	£-	985,921					
Total staff costs 2021							£872,234	£-	£872,234					
c) Analysis of support costs														
	Admin Costs £	Property Costs £	Travel Costs £	Finance Costs £	Depreciation £	Governance £	Head Office £	Total 2022 £						
Cost of raising funds														
Fundraising	8,606	-	-	1,363	-	-	-	9,969						
Shop operating costs	1,029	4,230	-	-	-	287	-	5,546						
Charitable activities														
Unrestricted funds														
Lifelong learning	10,216	3,080	-	14,540	-	2,682	37,496	68,014						
Healthy living	-	-	-	566	-	-	6,378	6,944						
Community development	-	-	-	1,326	-	-	4,289	5,615						
Community buildings	19,613	227,357	3,909	45,517	457	7,089	37,555	341,497						
Central services	13,720	-	-	12,328	2,932	56,738	(85,718)	-						
Restricted funds														
Lifelong learning	17,162	83	-	-	-	10,640	-	27,885						
Healthy living	16,761	-	-	-	-	166	-	16,927						
Community development	11,635	25,198	-	-	-	-	-	36,833						
Community buildings														
Endowment fund														
Community buildings	-	-	-	-	27,009	-	-	27,009						
Total support costs 2022							£98,742	£259,948	£3,909	£75,640	£30,398	£77,602	£-	£546,239

Central services staff costs and support costs are allocated to each of the programmes dependent on the volume of activity.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

6. EXPENDITURE (continued)	2022 £	2021 £
d) Analysis of governance costs		
Legal, consultancy and professional fees	54,999	53,438
Audit fees	17,874	16,026
Health and safety	4,716	20,943
Companies House	13	13
	<u>£77,602</u>	<u>£90,420</u>

	Staff Costs £	Support Costs £	Other direct Costs £	Total 2021 £
e) Analysis of total expenditure – prior year				
Cost of raising funds				
Fundraising	67,287	9,415	-	76,702
Shop operating costs	35,379	8,147	-	43,526
	<u>102,666</u>	<u>17,562</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>120,228</u>
Charitable activities				
Unrestricted funds				
Lifelong learning	262,092	37,759	28,278	328,129
Healthy living	21,253	8,483	-	29,736
Community development	35,089	13,749	-	48,838
Community buildings	349,349	364,395	-	713,744
	<u>667,783</u>	<u>424,386</u>	<u>28,278</u>	<u>1,120,447</u>
Restricted funds				
Lifelong learning	34,203	23,208	17,549	74,960
Healthy living	34,883	206	-	35,089
Community development	32,699	20,143	13,552	66,394
Community buildings	-	-	-	-
	<u>101,785</u>	<u>43,557</u>	<u>31,101</u>	<u>176,443</u>
Endowment Funds				
Community buildings	-	27,009	-	27,009
	<u>-</u>	<u>27,009</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,009</u>
Total expenditure 2021	<u>£872,234</u>	<u>£512,514</u>	<u>£59,379</u>	<u>£1,444,127</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

6. EXPENDITURE (continued)						Direct Costs £	Head Office £	Total 2021 £
f) Analysis of staff costs – prior year								
Cost of raising funds								
Fundraising						67,287	-	67,287
Shop operating costs						35,379	-	35,379
Charitable activities								
Unrestricted funds								
Lifelong learning						167,793	94,299	262,092
Healthy living						40	21,213	21,253
Community development						19	35,070	35,089
Community buildings						272,624	76,725	349,349
Central services						227,307	(227,307)	-
Restricted funds								
Lifelong learning						34,203	-	34,203
Healthy living						34,883	-	34,883
Community development						32,699	-	32,699
Endowment fund								
Community buildings						-	-	-
Total staff costs 2021						£872,234	£-	£872,234
Total staff costs 2020						£870,801	£-	£870,801
g) Analysis of support costs - prior year								
	Admin Costs £	Property Costs £	Travel Costs £	Finance Costs £	Depreciation £	Governance £	Head Office £	Total 2021 £
Cost of raising funds								
Fundraising	7,706	-	-	1,709	-	-	-	9,415
Shop operating costs	872	6,263	-	-	-	1,012	-	8,147
Charitable activities								
Unrestricted funds								
Lifelong learning	-	-	-	-	-	790	36,969	37,759
Healthy living	-	-	-	-	-	166	8,317	8,483
Community development	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,749	13,749
Community buildings	37,449	253,271	2,989	20,358	499	19,752	30,077	364,395
Central services	6,381	-	-	19,050	4,916	58,765	(89,112)	-
Restricted funds								
Lifelong learning	13,956	180	-	-	-	9,072	-	23,208
Healthy living	-	-	-	-	-	206	-	206
Community development	20,143	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,143
Community buildings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Endowment fund								
Community buildings	-	-	-	-	27,009	-	-	27,009
Total support costs 2021								

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

7. NET INCOME	2022	2021
	£	£
Net income is stated after charging:		
Professional advice insurance including trustee indemnity cover	605	598
Depreciation	30,398	32,425
Audit fees	17,874	16,026
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
8. STAFF EMPLOYMENT	2022	2021
	£	£
Salaries and wages	832,529	751,317
Social security costs	67,797	57,410
Pension costs	54,618	49,742
Other staff costs	30,621	13,765
Redundancy payments	356	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total Staff Costs	£985,921	£872,234
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Two employees received remuneration for the year in the band £60,000 to £70,000 (2021– 2) and pension cost of £26,846 (2021 – £26,299), were paid in relation to these employees.

The average monthly number of employees during the year was made up as follows:

	2022		2021	
	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time
Community work	29	8	28	7
Central Administration	0	5	-	5
Fundraising	0	2	-	2
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	29	15	28	14
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

	2022	2021
Full time equivalents		
The number of full time equivalent posts is	31.50	29.63
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £88,777 (2021: £86,809).

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	Land and Buildings £	Furniture and Equipment £	Motor Vehicles £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 April 2021	2,155,448	999,344	51,453	3,206,245
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2022	2,155,448	999,344	51,453	3,206,245
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2021	485,450	995,574	51,451	1,532,475
Charge for year	27,009	3,389	-	30,398
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2022	512,459	998,963	51,451	1,562,873
Net Book Value				
At 31 March 2022	£1,642,989	£381	£2	£1,643,372
At 31 March 2021	£1,669,998	£3,770	£2	£1,673,770

All assets are used for charitable purposes.

10. DEBTORS	2022 £	2021 £
Aston Mansfield Charitable Trust	11,919	16,659
Rent Receivable	79,133	23,705
Other debtors and prepayments	34,906	26,052
	<u>£125,958</u>	<u>£66,416</u>
11. CREDITORS: due within one year	2022 £	2021 £
Deferred income	47,332	141,613
Taxation and social security	21,948	-
VAT payable	670	610
Other creditors and accruals	105,388	71,213
	<u>£175,338</u>	<u>£213,436</u>

12. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH (OUTFLOW)/INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	2022 £	2021 £
Net movement in funds	5,918	106,864
Depreciation and amortisation	30,398	32,425
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	(60)	261
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(38,098)	28,764
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(59,542)	(256)
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operations	(£61,384)	£168,058

13. DIRECTORS/TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION

No director has received any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses (2021: Nil).

14. CHARITY COMMISSION SCHEME

Under a scheme approved by the Charity Commissioners in 1994, the Golden Jubilee Trust merged with Aston-Mansfield and Aston-Mansfield also became the corporate trustee of the Lady Trower Trust, which is the proprietor of the land at Lambourne End and Burges Road, East Ham. Their accounts are merged with those of this charity with effect from 1 October 1993.

15.	ENDOWMENT FUNDS	Movement in funds				
		Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
	Land					
	Burges Road East Ham E6	180,000	-	-	-	180,000
	Lambourne End	1,294,425	-	(27,009)	-	1,267,416
		<u>£1,474,425</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>(£27,009)</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£1,447,416</u>
		Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
	Land					
	Burges Road East Ham E6	180,000	-	-	-	180,000
	Lambourne End	1,321,434	-	(27,009)	-	1,294,425
		<u>£1,501,434</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>(£27,009)</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£1,474,425</u>

Expenditure reflects depreciation of the Lambourne End Property.

ASTON-MANSFIELD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

16. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Lambourne End – Lake	2,979	-	-	-	2,979
East End Community Foundation	9,941	8,000	(16,919)	-	1,022
London City Airport	3,000	-	(3,000)	-	-
Community Connectors	17,467	71,423	(88,890)	-	-
Big Lottery Fund Grant	47,722	68,496	(88,328)	-	27,890
City Bridge Trust	7,693	47,800	(48,539)	-	6,954
Legacy Income	14,365	-	-	-	14,365
London Cycling Grant	3,055	-	-	-	3,055
London Community -Response Fund	28,195	-	(28,195)	-	-
LB Newham	18,686	18,780	(20,586)	-	16,880
CAF-ELEVATE	-	132,913	(744)	-	132,169
Jack Petchey	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
	<u>£153,103</u>	<u>£352,412</u>	<u>(£295,201)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>£210,314</u>
	Balance at April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
Lambourne End – Lake	2,979	-	-	-	2,979
East End Community Foundation	-	21,531	(11,590)	-	9,941
London City Airport	3,000	-	-	-	3,000
Community Connectors	-	63,007	(45,540)	-	17,467
Big Lottery Fund Grant	28,101	62,689	(43,068)	-	47,722
City Bridge Trust	21,223	24,500	(38,030)	-	7,693
Legacy Income	17,860	-	(3,495)	-	14,365
London Cycling Grant	4,062	1,994	(3,001)	-	3,055
London Community -Response Fund	-	49,600	(21,405)	-	28,195
	-	29,000	(10,314)	-	18,686
	<u>£77,225</u>	<u>£252,321</u>	<u>(£176,443)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>£153,103</u>

A full description of each fund is shown at note 20.

17. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
General Fund	<u>£165,301</u>	<u>£1,266,607</u>	<u>(£1,290,891)</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£141,017</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

17. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS (continued)

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
General Fund	21,716	1,298,670	(1,240,675)	85,590	165,301
Designated Fund	85,590	-	-	(85,590)	-
	<u>£107,306</u>	<u>£1,298,670</u>	<u>(£1,240,675)</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£165,301</u>

During the year ended 31st March 2021 the designated funds was utilised on security and other cost associated with decanting of Durning Hall Flats as well as other one-off expenditure as agreed by the board. The designated funds have all been used in the prior year to support the work of the charity through the Covid-19 Pandemic.

18. NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

Current year

	Endowment Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Unrestricted Fund £	Total 2022 £
Fixed Assets	1,642,990	-	382	1,643,372
Current Assets	-	210,314	120,399	330,713
Current Liabilities	(144,672)	-	(30,666)	(175,338)
Inter-fund Loan	(50,902)	-	50,902	-
Net Funds	<u>£1,447,416</u>	<u>£210,314</u>	<u>£141,017</u>	<u>£1,798,747</u>

Previous year

	Endowment Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Unrestricted Fund £	Total 2021 £
Fixed Assets	1,669,999	-	3,771	1,673,770
Current Assets	-	153,103	179,392	332,495
Current Liabilities	(144,672)	-	(68,764)	(213,436)
Inter-fund Loan	(50,902)	-	50,902	-
Net Funds	<u>£1,474,425</u>	<u>£153,103</u>	<u>£165,301</u>	<u>£1,792,829</u>

19. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions with individuals or trustees during the year (2021- nil).

Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee, although under the control of a different trustee board, is a connected charity with identical objects and having a common administration.

19. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (continued)

During the year the company received a grant of £586,927 (2021- £815,097) from Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust and provided services costing £15,254 (2021 £14,882) to that charity. At the year-end Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust owed Aston Mansfield £11,919 (2021 - £16,659) as disclosed in note 11.

The company is a member of Lambourne End Limited, a charitable company limited by guarantee. During the year the company did not provide any services to the charity (2021 - £ Nil) and no amount was owed to or due from Aston-Mansfield (2021 - £Nil).

20. RESTRICTED FUNDS**Lambourne End Lake**

In 2007 the Environment Agency provided a grant towards the capital cost of providing a lake at Lambourne End. These funds would be utilised once the planning permission is granted and construction work commences on the lake.

East End Community Foundation

A six-week programme of positive activities for young people during the summer holidays including targeted sessions for transitional youth and youth at risk of anti-social behaviour. The funding was provided by East End Community Foundation.

The winter crisis response fund administered by East End Community Foundation was a grant for the emotional and practical support for the specific issue's families were facing during the pandemic. This includes managing children's development and presenting behaviours which indicate mental health issues.

	Movement in funds			
	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Positive activities for youth	2,441	8,000	(10,441)	-
Crisis response	7,500	-	(6,478)	1,022
Total	£9,941	£8,000	(£16,919)	£1,022
	=====	=====	=====	=====

London City Airport Community Fund

This grant is funded by London City Airport to deliver 10 days of activity for young people in Newham moving between primary and secondary education-to develop resilience, life-skills, and confidences in those young people

Community Connectors

Aston-Mansfield Community Connectors are funded through a partnership bid with East London Foundation Trust and Community links. This fund two community connectors roles based in the North of the borough covering Forest Gate and Manor Park neighbourhoods.

Working directly within the NHS, Clinical Commissioning Group and with GP practices, the community connectors work with registered patients with Mental Health Diagnosis. Their role is to engage with the patients and connect them to local activities, initiatives and VCS, Self-help groups and volunteers and support them with addressing issues such as debt management, family disputes and legal matters around housing and access.

Big Lottery Fund Grant

The Youth4Youth project is funded by the Big Lottery for the development of young leaders and supporting them to campaign/engage in social action relating to local issues which concern them. The project is based on a model of co-production and co-design, which enables young people to develop their leadership skills.

20. RESTRICTED FUNDS (continued)

City Bridge Trust

The grant is to support voluntary and community groups to understand and implement sound finance procedures and practices. By helping groups establish good systems that will grow with their group, trustees, donors and funders can have confidence that money is being used and recorded correctly. Annually the programme involves 6 training or workshop sessions, mentoring by staff and experienced volunteers, the development of factsheets and a toolkit to guide groups through the finances. The extension funding is for 2 years, and funds 2-part time staff posts previously funded for three years so this has been a five-year programme.

Legacy

An amount of £19k was received in the prior year with a request for it to be contributed towards a farm project. This income has been restricted to Aston-Mansfield's activities and expenditures at Lambourne End and other Healthy eating/living initiatives.

London Cycling Grant

This is a grant funded by Transport for London and managed by the environmental regeneration charity, Groundwork. It promotes cycling as not only a means of transport, but also a route to greater personal freedom, better health and well-being and stronger, more social communities. Through this grant, children and parents at Little Manor receive cycling tuition for two hours on a weekly basis for four weeks and then go on a cycle adventure.

London Community Response

This was funded by London Community Response Fund and administered by the City Bridge Trust. The purpose of the grant was for supporting small local organization, delivered through our existing fitter finance team. The outcomes are for small local groups to become more financially sustainable through fundraising support.

The grant also provides funding towards our community centres core cost during the pandemic. Initially the funding was (up to) six months, but extended to enable the team reach more groups in need of capacity support.

London Borough of Newham (LBN)

The Fitter Finance team worked closely with the London Borough of Newham as part of the COVID RESPONSE Strategy.

LBN Community Neighbourhood team worked with Aston-Mansfield Fitter finance to develop a capacity building service for the Voluntary Community Sector (VCS) to help them increase and respond to their immediate communities. The first part of the fund provided bespoke packages of support to groups referred in by the Neighbourhood teams.

LBN provided £15,000 in the prior year for a partnership bid with Compost London CIC to continue with extremely focused groups who needed specific support to make them funding ready.

Many of the small VCS groups are from BAME communities such as the Somali association, ASHOK vision and Trinity Centre all based in Newham providing local services. In total over £100,000 extra income has been brought into the borough via the fundraising support given to the groups.

An additional grant of £4K was given in the prior year for the children's project to purchase IT equipment and play packs.

This year, LBN provided £10K towards weight management. Every 6-8 weeks young people referrals receive fresh food boxes and recipe cards for cooking with families at home playworkers will also give fun active support to introduce Healthy eating and cooking habits that influence families' behaviours. Young people are then asked to give feedback and send in videos photos of achievements examples of where they have shopped and cooked a healthy meal on a budget.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

20. RESTRICTED FUNDS (continued)

LBN also funded the Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF) for children who are eligible for benefits related Free School Meals, vulnerable children and children with SEND. Giving them access to healthy food and activities during the long school holiday periods. This fund enabled us to deliver 4 days (2 remote and 2 face-to-face) of activity and food during the Christmas period, purchase kitchen equipment to enable us to deliver better quality meals onsite and to enhance cooking activities and to purchase sports equipment to enable us to enhance our physical activity offer.

We are Food Secure is a program designed to research the reason behind the food choices of young people in Newham, it was funded specifically to conduct interviews with young people aged 11 – 14.

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Movement in funds		Balance at 31 March 2022 £
		Income £	Expenditure £	
Covid Response (part 1)	6,750	-	(2,550)	4,200
Covid Response (part 2)	9,000	-	(9,000)	-
Covid-19 Community grant	2,936	-	(2,936)	-
Weight Management	-	10,000	(470)	9,530
HAF Primary	-	5,365	(4,785)	580
HAF Secondary	-	3,015	(645)	2,370
We are Food Secure	-	400	(200)	200
Total	£18,686	£18,780	(£20,586)	£16,880
	=====	=====	=====	=====

CAF-ELEVATE

This was funded by Charities Aid Foundation

Elevate is an employability programme taking young people aged 17 - 25 on a journey of skills development, 1:1 coaching, work experience and paid internships.

The 15-month programme runs until end of March 2023 and funds a full time coordinator, 2 Young Facilitators and contributes to the youth manager role.

Jack Petchey

We have been awarded £10k from Jack Petchey Foundation to deliver workshops, activities and events for young people aged 14+ to support their learning, increase their networks, help build resilience and reduce isolation post pandemic. The one year programme runs until December 2022.

21. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Lambourne End Limited

Aston-Mansfield is a member of Lambourne End Limited and in the event of winding-up it has undertaken to contribute an amount not exceeding £25,000.

22. COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021)

		Endowment Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	2021 Total £
Income	Notes				
Income from donations and legacies					
Donations		-	-	146	146
Income from charitable activities					
Grants	3	-	252,321	935,904	1,188,225
Project income		-	-	1,050	1,050
Rents and facility hire	4	-	-	182,664	182,664
Management and consultancy fees	5	-	-	-	-
Income from other trading activities					
Shop sales		-	-	6,700	6,700
Other income	6	-	-	172,206	172,206
Total income		-	252,321	1,298,670	1,550,991
Expenditure					
Fundraising		-	-	(76,702)	(76,702)
Shop operating costs		-	-	(43,526)	(43,526)
Expenditure on charitable activities					
Lifelong learning		-	(74,960)	(328,129)	(403,089)
Healthy living		-	(35,089)	(29,736)	(64,825)
Community development		-	(66,394)	(48,838)	(115,232)
Community buildings		(27,009)	-	(713,744)	(740,753)
Total expenditure	7	(27,009)	(176,443)	(1,240,675)	(1,444,127)
Net income/(expenditure)		(27,009)	75,878	57,995	106,864
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(27,009)	75,878	57,995	106,864
Fund balances as at 1 April 2020		1,501,434	77,225	107,306	1,685,965
FUND BALANCES AT 31 MARCH 2021		<u>£1,474,425</u>	<u>£153,103</u>	<u>£165,301</u>	<u>£1,792,829</u>

ASTON - MANSFIELD

England & Wales - Charity number 220085

Accounts

ASTON-MANSFIELD
(A company limited by guarantee)
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Charity Registration Number: 220085

Company Number: 48350

ASTON MANSFIELD

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Trustees	Christopher C Keen	(Chairman)
	Rev Paul Regan	
	Noor Choudary	
	Alex Minford	(Treasurer)
	Mahendra Savjani	
	Rehan Akhtar	
	Diana Hofler	(Resigned 11 June 2021)
	Emily Miles	
	Dr Joanne Beckmann	
	Rev Jeremy Fraser	
	Mr Mohammad Khan	
	Mr Asif Mangera	
Chief Executive Officer	Claire Helman	
Secretary	Eileen Da-Silva	
Bankers	National Westminster Bank Plc	Co-operative Bank Plc
	Ground Floor, Gredley House 1-11 Broadway Stratford London E15 4WG	80 Cornhill London EC3V 3NJ
Auditors	Haysmacintyre LLP 10 Queen Street Place London EC4R 1AG	
Solicitors	Russell-Cooke 2 Putney Hill Putney London SW15 6AB	
Registered Office	Durning Hall Earlham Grove Forest Gate London E7 9AB	

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report and the audited financial statements of the organisation for the year ended 31 March 2021 which have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (revised 2019) and the Companies Act 2006.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the charity are to develop the community wealth of East London and promote a diverse and inclusive society in which all are free to participate. These are achieved through several structured programmes and a range of activities supporting people of all ages, creeds, cultures, and abilities, principally within the London Borough of Newham.

One Year On

It is late August 2021. This annual report covers the period from the beginning of April 2020 to the end of March 2021, which means it includes both the shock period when COVID-19 struck, our rapid and effective response to reinventing our services, and ourselves, and our adaptation over the months as the needs of the people we worked with changed, and the restrictions required us to open and close our community buildings several times. Our staff and volunteers have showed immense flexibility, creativity, adaptability, and commitment, and continue to do so, particularly given the environment in which we work in Newham.

The impact of the pandemic on Newham's residents is amongst the worst in the country, with the highest death rate due to COVID-19. More than 27,000 extra people have had to claim benefits; while almost 17,000 have been placed on furlough – which is the highest in London. In a borough where 73 percent of residents are from minority ethnic communities, Newham has again been disproportionately harmed.

Half of all children in Newham live in poverty, making it the second poorest borough in England after Tower Hamlets. Hunger is a growing problem in the borough during the pandemic, and already just under a quarter of Newham's children are food insecure, meaning they regularly miss meals or go hungry. The number of residents requiring support (claimant rates) have increased by over 240% between February 2020 and May 2021, the largest increase in London.

In response to COVID-19 and lockdown, we rapidly changed our existing services and developed new ones, offering a combination of virtual and physically based services to provide

- Food and vital supplies
- Social, learning and development, play and fitness activities and emotional support to children and young people
- Childcare for children of key workers and vulnerable children
- Emotional, social, and practical support to parents and carers
- Fundraising support to small community groups and voluntary sector organisations

This was in a context where we, like everyone around us, were learning how to operate in very different circumstances, with staff and volunteers experiencing the trauma and shock of the pandemic, and the challenges of home-schooling and caring for relatives and friends.

We increased our focus on working in partnership with the London Borough of Newham, the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), East London Foundation Trust (ELFT) and other voluntary and community sector organisations, and we collaborated with many others to be part of the Help Newham COVID-19 response, including emergency food distribution, befriending support, and emotional and practical support.

Whilst Durning Hall, our Community Building, has had to close during lockdowns, it was used as a Rapid Testing Centre by the local authority, as part of their COVID-19 testing services. We have continued to keep the Froud Centre open for our children and family work, throughout the pandemic.

All our services have remained opened, some entirely online, and others face to face, depending on restrictions. We

- Recently re-opened Durning Hall, our community centre in Forest Gate, welcoming back some of our community and small business tenants
- Are currently in the midst of our busy 'in person' summer schemes for children, transitional youth and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
- Are continuing to run our Youth4Youth leadership and social action programme, and Skills for Youth (SKY) employability programme for young people
- Have employed 2 Community Connectors, as part of our work with health partners and the London Borough of Newham, to transform the mental health system in Newham

We know that the restrictions caused by the pandemic change rapidly, and this snapshot of our situation in late August 2021 will constantly evolve. We have taken a cautious approach to the government's removal of many restrictions, with most of our COVID-19 safety procedures remaining in place. In the coming months, we will continue to base our response to the pandemic on the principles that we should

- provide as much support to the local community and people we work with as we can, making sure that it is safe for staff and volunteers to do so
- draw on our existing expertise, resources, and networks, and not jump into areas where we really don't know what we are doing
- work collaboratively with others, and support collaborative efforts across Newham

The year in numbers

During the year we have directly delivered services to around 600 children and young people, 50 families and about 72 organisations; an estimated additional 820 people have used our centres for sessional activities, and an additional 27 organisations rented office space.

Some 108 children have developed socially, physically, and creatively through a range of play experiences at our After School Club, Holiday Playschemes, and Breakfast Club. The children benefit from improved life-skills, confidence, and self-awareness, whilst the programme offers parents affordable wrap around care allowing them to participate in work, study, or training.

51 families used our Little Manor Supermarket, which provides free food and emotional and practical support to families

We have worked with around 473 young people. Over 160 young people have developed their ability to become successful and active citizens, contributing to their communities, through participating in our Young Achievers Group (YAG) for young people with special needs and disabilities, and the Youth4Youth leadership programme. Over 200 young people enjoyed our Wireless online programme, developing skills, and receiving support with practical and emotional issues arising through lockdowns. Some 74 young people have participated in our youth employability programme, SKY, learning practical skills and developing their social networks. We ran focus groups on a range of issues with 27 young people and have benefited from having 9 young volunteers as part of our youth team.

Around 20 community groups/organisations and some 820 people have learned, connected, and improved their wellbeing through participating in activities at our community centres, the Froud Centre and Durning Hall. In addition, 27 organisations rented office space.

We have been in contact with around 72 community groups/organisations, throughout the year, providing 51 with advice and guidance or direct fundraising support. This has resulted in raising £131,830 for community groups/organisations. Other support has included business planning, project design, monitoring and evaluation, website development, partnership and collaboration and financial management.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Strategy

This was the fourth year of implementation of our strategy, Creating the Future, a summary of which is below.

Creating the Future – In summary

VISION

We want to see more children, young people and families in Newham and east London leading happy healthy lives, realising their potential and unlocking their ambition.

MISSION

Using an integrated and community focused approach we will make long lasting change, offering opportunity, community and inspiration to children, families and young people in Newham and east London.

WE WILL

- Offer a continuum of support, through both direct delivery and signposting, from cradle to career. We will nurture relationships, offer opportunity, community and inspiration throughout our provision.
- Build on our current children and youth programmes, collaborating with inspirational and successful individuals and organisations to offer the best opportunities and experiences.
- Continue to develop and seek out partnerships with the community, voluntary, public and business sectors to ensure that our work is relevant, complementary to other service provisions, sustainable and embedded in best practice.
- Give children, young people and families greater opportunities to thrive and flourish, we will share our expertise and methodologies with other organisations to help inform best practice in the sector.

MAJOR CHANGES

- A move away from our focus on community buildings. Instead we will focus on people-oriented service provision and effective signposting.
- Shifting our voluntary sector capacity building work to focus on organisations working with children, young people and families and development of social enterprises.
- Growing our current children and families programme to include a wider age range and to be present in more geographical areas.
- Growing our youth programme. To cater to the wide and varied needs of young people in Newham and east London.
- Introducing a social enterprise aspect to our ecosystem to create more employment and training opportunities, particularly for young people, and to improve the financial sustainability of our work.

WAYS OF WORKING

- Ecosystems: we work with the ecosystem of organisations effecting children, young people and families, and we create a strong organisational ecosystem.
- 'Giving something back': building opportunities for people who have benefitted from our work to become part of the next generation of Aston-Mansfield, for example as volunteers, staff, supporters and ambassadors.
- An integrated approach: understanding that we are one element of people's lives, and that by working with others within their networks we can improve our impact.
- Successful, ambitious and enterprising: continuing to learn, innovating, and staying relevant.
- Impact led: understanding and measuring the difference that we make and changing and adapting our work to improve our impact.

During 2020/21, our progress in relation to the strategy included:

- Developing and implementing new youth programmes, including SKY, our youth employability programme, Wireless, our online offer, and working with partners to support development of the young health champions scheme, and youth led research on adolescent mental health in Newham
- Growing our children's programme by expanding our work with families to include food distribution, creation and delivery of activity play packs, and more extensive family support
- Making substantial progress with the refurbishment of our community space at the Froud Centre, in preparation for creating a new GP/Primary Care Centre at the Froud Centre
- Working on our planning application for redeveloping the Durning Hall site in Forest Gate
- Building stronger relationships with health and wellbeing partners in Newham
- Developing plans for a new governance model, so that our governance is more connected to local communities, more diverse and strongly influenced by diverse and local voices, and particularly by young people

Children and Family Work

Children's programme

The Little Manor Play Project provides high quality, affordable wraparound care for children in Newham aged five to 12 and comprises breakfast, after school and holiday provision. It also offers emotional and practical support and free food to families. During the year, some 108 children have developed socially, physically, and creatively through a range of play experiences. The children benefit from improved life-skills, confidence, and self-awareness, whilst the programme offers parents affordable wrap around care allowing them to participate in work, study, or training.

As part of our COVID-19 response, we

- Provided breakfast and after school provision for children of keyworkers, and vulnerable children, during lockdowns
- Delivered weekly activity packs to Little Manor children during lockdowns. These are fun, tactile, and creative activities ensuring children continue to learn through play. At the end of the activity the children have created something they can keep and then share images of their creations with their Little Manor friends, via our on-line platform. Where possible, packs are delivered by hand (while observing social distancing rules) enabling the team the opportunity to have valuable face time talking to parents and children. Staff also film a demonstration video which is shared with the children.
- Distributed food to the families that we work with, with support from the Newham Food Alliance, City Harvest, and the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers, providing food to around 120 people from 30 families each week. For many families this has been very much appreciated, particularly when there were delays in the distribution of food vouchers from schools. We also had parents who felt anxious about going into supermarkets, and many who were isolating for health reasons. We created a safe environment where parents can "shop" one family at a time by booking slots to collect food. We also delivered food to families where necessary.
- Supported families experiencing very difficult issues, including bereavement, mental health, financial issues, housing problems, separation leading to parental conflict. We spent an increased amount of time supporting these families with one-to-one sessions that lead to appropriate signposting.

- Offered holiday playschemes during the Summer, and October and February half-terms. With government restrictions around space and bubble sizes, we were unable to work with the numbers we would usually cater for, but we did have 30 children attend during the Summer. We ran the scheme 4 days per week with a minimum of 2 off-site activities every week.
- We also ran the Transitional Youth project during the summer holidays and October half-term, for 2 days per week. During the summer, 16 young people attended the programme which consisted of 1 day per week participating in workshop-based activities and 1 day per week taking part in outdoor pursuits at Lambourne End.

During the year, we connected with 108 children from 78 families:

- 51 families used the supermarket
- 101 children received activity packs
- 82 children participated in our face to face sessions
 - 26 children used Breakfast Club
 - 50 children used Playscheme/ Transitional Youth
 - 41 children used After School Club

Little Manor's Big Family Cycling Adventure

Little Manor's Big Family Cycling Adventure builds on the learning of our previous programme which worked with children from the Little Manor Play Project, teaching and developing cycling skills with primary school aged children. Based on feedback from families, we developed this programme to deliver similar training to parents of these children which will continue to improve and enhance the cycling experiences of children who initially took part.

Sessions target non-cyclists and novice cyclists (parents are grouped by ability based on a pre-project assessment). Sessions take place in our community centre and then move onto roads in the surrounding area as skills and confidences improve. At the end of each term a staff-led 'adventure' ride is planned together with staff and participants of the two previous courses. The adventure covers on and off-road cycling and celebrates the end of the learning sessions, and the improvement in skills which will have occurred. Each adventure is appropriate to the ability level of the group.

Each course of training that takes place includes simple bike maintenance workshops, advice on bike storage (vital for those who live in high-rise / overcrowded housing) and advice on purchasing affordable bikes through the 2nd hand market or Cycling for All scheme. This training provides invaluable sessions for families to spend quality time learning together. Those children that have previously been through the course are supported to take on a 'support and guidance' role for their parent. The project enables families in East London to cycle together and be confident in doing so.

Coronavirus restrictions meant that we had to put our project on hold for some months. We were keen to restart the programme in the summer, but we were unsure how families would feel about participating. Consultation with parents indicated that they would welcome the return of the programme, but with smaller group sizes. We reduced our groups to include only two families at a time.

Achievements include

- 18 children and 25 parents/older siblings have taken part in training and improved their cycling skills.
- 100% of participants who could not cycle can now cycle unaided.
- 51 participants have taken part in a Cycle Adventure.
- 100% of participants said they enjoyed the sessions.

- 49 participants reported having learnt something new.
- 100% of parents/older siblings surveyed said they felt more confident cycling because of the project.
- 100% of children surveyed think that they will now cycle more because of the project.
- Volunteers have improved their skills in supporting families to cycle.
- Several children took the lead role in the family, supporting their parents to learn new skills.
- Families reported huge enjoyment of learning together and with other families.

"This year has thrown way more challenges than I can remember but the importance of the project still rings through loud and clear. One of the biggest positive impacts I have enjoyed is the participants shared experience of all being learners together between the children and the relatives and subsequently learning at times from each other is very special to witness." (Damien, Cycling Instructor)

"I was excited when we finally got to do our cycle adventure, I got to show my mum how to check her bicycle safely which made me feel really helpful as it is usually my Mum explaining things to me." (Samina, Child participant)

"Having always taken my bicycle to someone else to repair it and make sure it is safe to ride. I feel confident enough now to do the basic checks needed to check for myself and even change the inner tube on a wheel. This is important for my family and I as we can save money doing something practical together that we already love to do." (Sheila, Participant, and parent to one participating child)

"I thought I was going to miss out on doing cycling because of the lockdown. I loved being on the bike and showing my mum how to stop safely. Our cycle adventure was the best." (Saul, Child participant)

"I cannot put into words how special it was that I got to see my child cycle on their own for the first time. It is something I thought I would not get to experience as I am not a confident cyclist and was not sure if I would be able to provide the opportunity on my own. Thankyou Little manor." (Evelyn, Participant, and parent to one participating child)

The Manor (Transitional Youth Project)

The Manor is a project for young people aged 12-14, aimed at building citizenship, independence, and diverse young leaders. Young people have a direct input in creating the rules and parameters required to ensure the smooth running of the programme; they are creators, not just consumers, which helps them to build ownership of the programme. Activities include developmental workshops, volunteer tasks, self-led activities, and outdoor pursuits. Participants also volunteer at Little Manor Supermarket.

During the summer holidays, 16 young people participated in The Manor, all of whom were from ethnic minorities. The programme included 45 sports, exercise, and leisure activities, including volunteering. Around 60% of these activities were new to all of the young people.

From evidence provided by registers, an online survey, the Feedback Dinner discussion and observations by staff and volunteers we know that:

- 14 young people gained new friends

- 16 young people volunteered and supported their local community by distributing food to local families
- 11 young people volunteered to repair and organise equipment that is used by children and young people in other programmes that we deliver (sorting skates and bike maintenance)
- 14 young people expressed a desire to volunteer in the future
- 4 young people had their first experience of cycling on the road
- 16 young people took part in activities that they did not know existed therefore broadening their life-experiences
- 14 young people reported that the de-escalating situations workshop had given them more confidence in diffusing and dealing with confrontation
- 11 young people gained strategies in how to manage their time and recognised how good time management can improve mental well-being
- 16 young people were engaged in several activities which helped improve skills in teamwork, co-operation, communication, and tolerance
- 11 young people gained strategies to help improve their listening and communication skills
- 14 young people became more knowledgeable about recognising prejudicial language and behaviours
- 14 young people gained a better understanding of how to manage their money, identifying the difference between needs and wants, the importance of saving and pensions

The group had diverse needs and included:

- 1 young person who had been bullied at school for two years and was being bullied online during the summer (this information was brought to our attention during the summer programme)
- 1 young person who had not left their home since the lockdown started in March due to anxiety
- 1 young person who had been newly diagnosed with autism
- 1 young person with ADHD
- 1 young person with suspected ADHD (parent seeking diagnosis)
- 1 young person who had recovered from leukaemia but had recently experienced undiagnosed seizures which were affecting their self-esteem
- 1 young person living with an older sibling involved in gang crime and drug trafficking
- 1 young person who had lost a family member to Covid-19
- 2 young people whose social engagement outside of school is solely through social media

The young people who have participated in this project have developed skills, confidences, and networks as a result of the activities. They have developed a peer network and explored issues to which young people at this impressionable age are particularly vulnerable. We have seen the young people meet new friends, become more confident and engage in positive, and impactful behaviours, and develop a sense of responsible citizenship.

"I've always tried to find Playschemes for my son to attend but as he started secondary school there wasn't really anything suitable.

They were either for a couple of hours a day which wasn't suitable as I work, or the setting seemed too childish.

We live in Stratford and I'm not comfortable with him just hanging out with his friends nor do I want him sitting at home on his PlayStation all day.

Since finding The Manor no other setting can compare.

There was a great programme in the summer and despite what's been going on they managed to create a fun packed programme which my son thoroughly enjoyed!

Not only did they have fun activities they also did some volunteering i.e. helping distribute food at the setting for people in the local community, volunteering to help with the younger children's activities. They also learnt life skills like cooking and money management.

This summer was even better for me as they also provided a healthy lunch which was fantastic.

He always looked forward to attending The Manor and when it was the last week, he was sad.

We can't wait to do it again."

(BT, Parent)

"The Manor was a lifeline for myself and my daughter. In the last few years my daughter had had some serious health issues which have had an effect on her confidence and caused me to become very protective where I allow her to go without me.

In particular this year she had an unexpected seizure which she now is required to take medication for. Seizure is usually unexpected yet despite being newly diagnosed the Manor Team were very keen for my daughter to still attend. They ensured all the necessary medical forms were updated and the instructions and procedure to administer emergency medication fully understood should my daughter require it. I can't begin to tell you how much this meant to me. It allowed my daughter to attend the holiday club like any other child at the same time giving me piece of mind!

The staff are amazing and my daughter on most days came home full of conversation about the day. This year because of the Covid 19 situation like most parents I had concerns how the children would be kept safe. The Manor communication was excellent and very transparent. We were asked not to send the children with any items from home to reduce risk, which meant the children had to prepare their own lunches, which I personally thought was a great idea in teaching children to become slightly more independent and learn about what is a balance diet for lunch.

My daughter is now 13 and in the transitional group I think the budgeting exercise the children had was excellent, because often at this age children have no sense of budgeting as unfortunately it is not normally taught in the schools. Also I like the fact the children were volunteering at the food bank this was a new experience for my daughter but one I know she would like to do again.

My one suggestion would be if it was possible that the transitional group was able to run for more than two days a week. I would just like to take this opportunity to say a big "THANK YOU" to all the amazing staff at The Manor."

(TD, Parent)

"I enjoyed the mountain biking since I've never done it before, it was challenging but, in the end, it was pretty simple and fun. I also enjoyed volunteering even though at the end I was really tired because I was there for the whole day. I quite liked preparing my own lunch because I felt like I was being independent for myself and doing things for myself. If I wasn't at the Manor, I probably would've sat in the house doing nothing. I would like to attend the programme again as it boosted my confidence and tried new things, I never thought I would do. I liked learning new games and the prejudice workshop made me think a lot. I also enjoyed the money management workshop. I liked when we went to Lambourne End and did activities some were fun, and some were scary but all in all I enjoyed it."

(LM, Participant)

"I really liked going to The Manor as we get to do lots of fun things. Plus I get to see my non-school friends and I got to do some volunteer which was different but good. It taught me that giving back is good and that in real life when I'm an adult working can be fun.

I've learnt how to repair my bike which is a good skill to have and also have to cook from scratch and now I can make food for my mum and sisters.

If I wasn't at The Manor, I'd just be at home on my PlayStation playing Fortnite with my friends.

Stratford isn't that safe, and my mum doesn't want me just hanging around the street or the park. So being able to go to The Manor was good as I learn how to be part of a team, made lots of friends, the staff are really nice, learnt life skills and also have lots of fun."

(KF, Participant)

"Before and midway through my time at the Manor during the summer holidays I was going through a tough experience of bullying from boys at my school. The way I felt before the project started in the summer was very bad and I would end up getting upset most of the time, but my experience at the Manor had helped me get through it as I enjoyed everything we did. When I finally decided to speak up to my mum, we went in and talked to Loyda and Damien, who advised me on different stuff to do. Loyda helped me out a lot, as she arranged a meeting with my school. I was afraid of talking to the school but when she did that, we went on to resolve the problem. Loyda also helped me with applying for a new school that my other friends at the Manor attend and because of that I feel a lot more happier and comfortable with my education. The Manor made me feel much more motivated especially when it came to scenarios which might occur in school. I developed better friendships and the social skill of how to de-escalate situations. I felt content when I made lunch and the ingredients, we were allowed to use to create our lunches and enjoyed the process of creating it and also adapting on my lunches from the creations of others. What I found challenging was the active listening at the start but when the activity finished, I grew into it and learnt how to do it. I enjoyed when we would go to Lambourne End every Wednesday and helping to serve the families at the supermarket on Thursdays. Volunteering for the families was my standout activity. I never expected that to happen. I enjoyed knowing that I was helping out other people."

(ST, Participant)

Youth Work

Annual Youth Survey

We received 37 responses for our annual youth survey of young people engaging with Aston-Mansfield. Key findings include:

- If allowed, young people would like to see more physical activities such as dance and being outdoors
- Education was the overwhelming issue that concerned young people, followed by employment and lack of training
- The pandemic caused financial and health concerns, boredom, and anxiety about accessing learning
- 90% of respondents indicated that their confidence increased having engaged in Aston-Mansfield activities
- 100% of respondents were very satisfied with the staff and the workshop/activity content
- 100% of young people would recommend Aston-Mansfield to their friends and family

Youth4Youth leadership programme

Youth4Youth (Y4Y) is a leadership development scheme for young people from around Newham. Diverse youth from across the borough who may not ordinarily meet or befriend one another come together for a series of team building and skills development sessions. As part of their journey toward becoming a change agent in their community, young people plan and deliver events and campaigns at different scales growing their confidence, experience, and networks.

We have recruited a diverse and motivated core group of Changemakers from across Newham. With representation from young males and females from Asian backgrounds (Bangladesh/Indonesia/Pakistan/Sri Lanka/Guyana) as well as representation from Black, White and Mixed Heritage (Jamaican, Nigerian, English, French, Congolese) We have one Filipino male, and one male and female from Colombia.

Unfortunately, as soon as the young people came back from a training residential, the country went into lockdown. There was a period where both staff and a couple of young people were sick from the virus and needed ample time to recover. As an organisation we had to take a responsive attitude towards the pandemic, the needs of the young people had to come first during these unprecedented times. We were determined to do everything we could to support the changemakers and keep them connected, engaged, and mobilised whilst ensuring their voices and the causes they were passionate about did not get forgotten during the crisis.

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By readjusting our budgets, purchasing more equipment and software to move our programme online we were able to utilise new platforms that enabled us to be creative, accessible, interactive, and ultimately engaging. Nevertheless, the journey from planning to the actual delivery of social action projects was a challenging one.

Virtual Wellness Day Event

One group decided to deliver a virtual 'Wellness Day' event to promote mental health and wellbeing for children, young people, families, and the wider community to combat the challenges of the Covid Pandemic. The Changemakers thought this cause was of immense importance given the current circumstances and they wanted to utilise this opportunity to really make an impact.

The event was a success with a total of 54 Newham residents attending: - 21 Adults, 10 Children and 23 young people. Participants were asked for feedback at the end of each activity. 96% of the participants stated they enjoyed the event and felt encouraged to make more of a concerted effort to take care of their mental/physical health and well-being. 92% stated they would attend more virtual wellness events, 96% stated they felt there was a need for events like this especially during the Pandemic and 81% said they learned something new from the event.

Embracing Our Roots Campaign

In light of the Black Lives Matter movement and the worldwide protests that took place during lockdown against incidents of police brutality and racially motivated violence against black people, many young people noticed a build-up of resentment and racial intolerance amongst people who did not understand or support the movement. This inspired them to work towards a tolerance and acceptance campaign through the celebration of culture and identity.

They titled the campaign Embracing Our Roots and began by using Instagram to create a page where people of all ages and backgrounds were asked to submit content about their roots/culture/heritage. People from all walks of life were encouraged to share random facts, traditional music, clothing, landmarks, or food from their own backgrounds. It was also a platform to learn about the cultures and traditions of others and have conversations around shared similarities and differences. The Changemakers created a competition to generate interest and boost submissions in the form of a prize draw.

5 Changemakers managed the Instagram Campaign where they would also utilise features such as Instagram stories, polls, lives, and TV to create content addressing issues such as racism, prejudices, cultural appropriation, and discrimination. They also used the "Ask me a question" feature to open themselves up to community where people had the opportunity to ask them questions about their own backgrounds. Due to the diverse members of the group, we had questions ranging from: 'What does a normal school day look like in Indonesia?' 'What food is served at a typical Jamaican wedding?' 'A lot of my Filipino friends have tribal tattoos what is the meaning behind the shapes?' Over 100 people followed and engaged with the Instagram campaign @embrace_our_roots

In addition to the Instagram campaign the Changemakers in this group wanted to create an opportunity where they encouraged themselves to get to know their own roots and identities. They decided to create a Heritage E-book filled with cultural information from each of their backgrounds. The content included intergenerational conversations via interviews with their parents/grand parents and their migration stories, facts about their countries, recipes for traditional dishes, poems, art, traditions and much more. They also hosted a virtual cultural dinner party where the young people spoke about their traditional cuisines and ordered food from a different culture they had not experienced before.

The final two elements to the social action project were an Embracing Our Roots heritage pack tool kit and a Culture Clash virtual event. The Changemakers thoroughly enjoyed working towards a collective heritage E-book, they learned so much more about their own identities and cultures and were able to involve their families in the process. They wanted to encourage other young people and members of the community to create one of their own too, hence they decided to put together a Heritage Pack Tool Kit which they endeavour to send out to young people, schools, youth groups and community organisations.

The Culture Clash virtual event was an opportunity for the Changemakers to meet, celebrate and showcase the work they have been doing so far with the people that have been following and participating in their online campaign. They wanted to offer a safe space to continue the difficult conversations on issues such as prejudices, cultural appropriation, stereotypes, discrimination, and colourism. It was also an opportunity for them to disseminate their Heritage Pack Tool Kit and encourage the attendees to not only embrace their own roots and identities but to celebrate the differences and similarities of other cultures by being more tolerant and accepting. A total of 42 people attended the event- 13 adults and 29 young people, some took part in the discussions and others took part in the culture themed team challenges to see how well they know other cultures. Attendees were asked for feedback at the end of the event, 100%

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stated they enjoyed the event and felt encouraged to learn more about their own roots and culture and that of others. 74% said they learned something new from the campaign, 76% said there is a need to make people more aware of issues around discrimination, prejudices, cultural appropriation, colourism etc and 62% said they would continue to remain engaged with the Instagram campaign if it continued to run.

Wireless 2gether

Wireless 2Gether was designed to provide positive online activities to support young people aged 13 – 19 years living in the borough of Newham. The primary focus was to reduce isolation and improve the wellbeing of young people through an online series of sessions under 3 main themes:

- Learning and training
- Emotional Support
- Social activities

A total of 84 young people signed up to the project. 53 of whom were Male and 30 of whom were Female and 1 young person who did not wish to specify.

We recruited a diverse group of young people from across Newham, with representation from young males and females from Asian backgrounds (Bangladesh/Indonesia/Pakistan/Sri Lanka/Guyana) as well as representation from Black, White and Mixed Heritage (Jamaican, Nigerian, English, French, Congolese) We had one Chinese male, and one male and female from Colombia. With such a rich mix of races, cultures, abilities, and faith this cohort of young people highly reflects the diversity of the borough.

- Learning and Training – A series of online learning and training sessions took place via Zoom, including Time management and goal setting, Public Speaking, How to prepare for College/University, Nutritious food on a budget, Personal Branding and Networking, CV Writing, Resilience and Self Care, Preparing for Assessment Centres, Fitness Classes
- Action Learning Set – These structured sessions enabled the young participants to address challenging and complex issues, by virtually meeting fortnightly and working together to explore and resolve issues through reflection.
- Young Person Support - An opportunity for young people to receive one to one support, advice and guidance on any issues or concerns they may have whether it be regarding their mental health, educational concerns, family and life at home issues, financial difficulties, or employment concerns. This included:
 - Regular Whatsapp 1-2-1 session with a youth worker
 - Dedicated sessions to check in with a youth worker (open forum)
 - Signposting support services
 - Signposting opportunities
 - Request telephone conversations with youth workers
 - Jabber with Jahed (a safe and open space for young people to discuss topical issues and current affairs)
- Social Activities- The aim of these sessions was to reduce loneliness and feelings of isolation amongst young people and to alleviate boredom. Sessions included: Induction Event, Games Nights, Quiz nights, Team Challenges, Online gaming sessions, Online Escape rooms, Netflix Party, Discussion sessions, Dinner and Hangout night

We asked a few of the participants to share their thoughts and experiences of the Wireless 2Gether project. Here are some of their responses:

"I really enjoyed the wireless 2Gether Project, it kept me social and helped me throughout lockdown. It helped a lot when I was bored and was fed up with being at home all the time, being able to see people I already knew and meeting new people was really nice too. I benefited a lot from the project, mainly with the Fitness sessions we had as I became lazy and did not exercise at all during lockdown, I learned how to manage my time properly and how to be more resilient during this pandemic. Also the Jabber with Jahed sessions we did helped to broaden my horizons with the different opinions people had with different topics. The game sessions were especially entertaining, I like getting competitive with others almost like an incentive. The Netflix party we had was really good because we were blessed to have been able to order food from vouchers which we received, and it was nice watching a movie together with everyone. The virtual dinner party we had was delightful because we essentially had a jabber with Jahed, which I already enjoy, and we were able to order food to eat again during the call."

S, 18

"I want to say that I had an amazing time with the Wireless 2Gether Project because in my current situation and the pandemic I got to feel relief by socialising with other people, I learnt how to manage my time better, how to network and build a brand and I even managed to do a fitness class, I was allowed to take part with my camera off as I did not want to wear my headscarf while I exercised, it was nice that I was allowed to do that. The Wireless 2gether Project made me feel less lonely and still be able to make new friends, whilst socialising, taking action, having fun discussions, and learning, it was a good opportunity for everyone. I love the group; everyone is very nice, and I used the 1 to 1 support whenever I needed it. My favourite part of the project was the games nights, we should do more of the games night and I think we should do more competitions as everyone loved them. I would definitely take part again. Thank you all"

R, 16

"The Wireless 2Gether Project is great, I think it was very helpful for us who may have felt bored or disconnected from people during lockdown. I personally benefited because we discussed a lot of issues and things happening in our lives that I wouldn't have had the chance to otherwise, I'm grateful. I got some great advice to help me develop further into my career and I had a lot of fun through the games and competitions, I personally think the dinner party could have been themed or something, just to add to the atmosphere. Like Chinese day or order a different cultures food day"

N, 17

"Jabber with Jahed was very beneficial and it was nice to discuss various topics such as black lives matter, lockdown life, careers and aspirations etc. During lockdown there wasn't much to do which is why I found the games sessions very fun and kept me entertained, especially the escape room challenge which we won. The fitness classes were also a good way to stay active as well as good advice from nutrition on a budget. I also received one to one support to help me look for apprenticeship schemes in engineering. The best part for me personally was the movie night as it was a good way to see everyone again and I enjoyed the free food"

A, 18

"I thoroughly enjoyed the project; I attended a lot of sessions and was impressed with the variety of activities on offer. It was really nice being able to see my peers and I enjoyed learning with them and socialising with everyone too. I particularly enjoyed the resilience and self-care session, the time management and goal setting and group coaching. I took part in nearly all of the fitness classes and loved the quiz nights and games nights even though my team never won. I had a few technical difficulties accessing the project in the beginning as people could not see me and my camera kept freezing or nobody could hear me properly. I got sent a web cam and was able to access everything with no disruptions. I am very grateful; I hope we get to do this project again."

C, 19

Young Achievers Group

Throughout the pandemic we have supported young people and their families who are part of the long established Young Achievers Group (YAG), for young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities through weekly phone check in and activity packs that the young people can do with their families. When restrictions permitted, we hosted biweekly small group face to face sessions and delivered online sessions once a month. We also produced a newsletter that will use to raise the profile of the project.

Community Connectors

Community Connectors support service users within Newham Primary Care Network (PCN) who are experiencing mental health difficulties. We do this by assisting people to access sources of support, which are provided by a range of organisations, including the Voluntary and Community Sector. This includes advice and support around housing, immigration, debt, welfare benefits, employment, as well as help to overcome loneliness, or learn new skills, and attend support groups and social activities. Our holistic interventions focus on supporting service users to address their social needs and increase their independence, resilience, confidence, and self-esteem, which has a positive impact on their overall wellbeing.

The clinical lead nurses, social workers, psychologists, and members of the multi-disciplinary Primary Care Network team referred 34 people to our North team for support between September 2020 and March 2021 (the frequency of referrals steadily increased, with the April-July 2021 figure currently standing at 38). The referrals have been varied; the top five reasons patients engaged with Community Connectors were:

- Social isolation/loneliness (13 people).
- Housing issues (7 people).
- Financial difficulties/debts (6 people).
- Low mood/needing emotional support (5 people).
- Anxiety about circumstances/struggling to cope (5 people) (Sept. 2020-March 2021)

The length of time we support service users is determined by each person's needs and the outcomes of the interventions. There have been predominantly positive outcomes, each patient was provided with signposting or referred to community resources and given motivational and confidence-building support. The top six intervention outcomes (September 2020 to March 2021) were:

- Befriending, including telephone service or peer groups (10 people).
- Exercise, including walking groups, cycling (9 people).
- Financial advice/advocacy (8 people).
- Rights Advice/Legal Centres (7 people).
- Outreach services/centres (6 people).
- Foodbanks (6 people) (Sept. 2020-March 2021)



The longest period of support was eight months and a fifth of patients (n=6) were re-referred to the team for reasons ranging from completing therapy to new practical issues arising. This indicates the important role Community Connectors play within the PCN, as a source of assistance to patients even after we have finished an initial period of contact. In fact, we regularly advise colleagues about maximising the value of community resources in their own work.

Community Connectors are active members of best practice networks, including sitting on the Social Prescribing Community of Practice Steering Group to develop the agenda for PCN-wide forum and training. We represent the team at the Newham Black and Asian Minority Ethnic

("BAME") Health and Well-being Reference Group monthly group. These network relationships linked into our involvement with the Newham African Caribbean

Asian (NACA) Focus Group which is implementing recommendations on improving the experience of mental health services for "BAME" patients.

We have jointly run groups with assistant psychologists for young people to build confidence, provide techniques to reduce anxiety about return to education, and develop strategies to get into volunteering.

Whilst working remotely, we keep relationships at the centre of our service. Most requests and outcomes are linked to promoting overall (psychological, emotional, physical, social, and material) well-being which are exacerbated during lockdown. Our interventions build up

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people's confidence in their ability to cope and be resilient. We provide a listening ear and enable each person to access community resources or make connections whilst engaging with their mental health interventions.

Voluntary Sector Capacity Building - Fitter Finance

Funded by City Bridge and London Borough of Newham, the Fitter Finance programme aims to improve the financial management of micro and small community and voluntary sector organisations in Newham. Our work has expanded during the pandemic, as it became clear that organisations needed practical to apply for funding, particularly from Trusts and Foundations.

Engagement, Review and Signposting

72 groups were contacted between April 2020 and 31st March 2021. The vast majority coming through the Newham survey being conducted weekly and then fortnightly as the year went on.

Funding support through Newham Council

26 organisations were contacted and reviewed through the council funding support programme. 60% of these have received advice, guidance, or direct funding support. This resulted in securing a total of £75K in funding with the largest grant to date being £50k.

City Bridge Trust Funding programme

34 organisations were supported with £56,830 secured to date
90% also received non-fundraising support, including:

- Website development
- Prospect listing research
- Application reviews
- Business planning support
- Project design
- monitoring and evaluation support
- Partnership and collaboration
- and finance-focused support.

Volunteering

The impacts of COVID-19 on Volunteering at Aston-Mansfield include

- Closure of our charity shop for much of the year, which meant that our dedicated team of charity shop volunteers spent several months not knowing if or when they would be able to return
- Less than a month into their 12 month placement our international volunteers from Colombia and India found themselves in lock down in a new country
- Adapting some volunteering roles to work remotely, and creating some new remote roles

Being able to volunteer not only provides practical work experience, contributing to the community also provides a sense of wellbeing. For many of our volunteers volunteering is their only chance to socialise and have meaningful interactions with others including members of staff, other volunteers, and the community. For these reasons it was critical that we adapted. Throughout the pandemic, the Volunteer Development Officer offered pastoral care to the volunteers that needed it. Where possible volunteers were given the opportunity of volunteering remotely in different departments.

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"As the pandemic hit, I could no longer continue my role in Fitter Finance and joined the Finance Department as a Finance Assistant working remotely. It was an experience I immensely enjoyed which got me back into paid work."

"I found myself in a new country, in a new role, working remotely – something I have never done before. Although everything was online including all our team meetings, I learned so much. This wasn't just new for me; it was new for everyone. I was supported and I learned so many things. Although I was away from home in a pandemic, I never thought about quitting volunteering"

"I live alone, and I have not been able to see any family, friends or come in and volunteer. Having these little chats helps and makes me feel like part of Aston-Mansfield I can't wait to come back."

With the introduction of volunteering from home the Volunteer Department has partnered with the University of East London's Positive Psychology and Coaching Psychology masters programme to provide students with the opportunity to remotely coach young people on the S.K.Y programme.

We have managed to create new flexible opportunities for volunteering within the community and are excited by the work we are doing.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The statement of financial activities shows a net income for the year of £106,684 (2020: Net expenditure of £259,458). Income increased by 20.89% in the year to £1,550,991. This increase is mainly attributable to funding from grants and other government support received during the period. The pandemic resulted in a sharp decline in the charity's normal operations. Total expenditure decreased by 6.8% compared with prior year.

Other than bank deposits the charity does not hold investments.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees review on a quarterly basis the charity's development and operational plans, future funding needs and its overall resilience and financial stability in light of its ability to meet its charitable objectives for the foreseeable future (usually a period upto 3 years).

The Trustees' consideration takes into account the major risks to the organisation – see Risk Management above. Additionally, the Trustees consider the need to ensure viability of the charity beyond the immediate future, absorb setbacks and be able to take advantage of opportunities and new initiatives.

As discussed in the Trustees Report, Aston Mansfield Charitable Trust ("AMCT")' a connected charity (see Note 20 to the Accounts):

- is working with Newham Clinical Commissioning Group and a local GP practice to develop plans to create a GP / Primary Care Centre at the Froud Centre, Manor Park; and
- has commissioned an initial plan for the redevelopment of the Forest Gate Site

It is anticipated these impending capital and development works may have some short to medium term operational impact reducing revenues from existing property assets and requiring incremental staff and other costs to continue service provision without use of the Froud Centre or Durning Hall.

As this is likely to absorb brought forward reserves the Trustees have determined to adopt, during this transitional phase of investment in the future, a "zero level" reserves policy.

AMCT has historically provided the charity with an annual grant with a non-binding preference from the donor for this to be spent on special projects, capacity building or future projects as determined by the trustees. In view of operational impact of AMCT's impending capital and development works AMCT has indicated that it will additionally support the charity in meeting its charitable objectives to the extent revenues are reduced or costs increased as a result of development at the Froud Centre or consequent to the re-development of the Forest Gate site.

The charity's reserve position as at 31 March 2021 is disclosed in Note 19 to the Accounts. At 31 March 2021 the charity held total funds of £1,792,829 (2020 - £1,685,965) of which £1,474,125 (2020 - £1,501,434) represents the Endowment Fund, Restricted Fund £153,103 (2020- £77,225) and Unrestricted Fund £165,301 (2020 - £107,306).

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For the reasons explained above, and having considered the charity's income, expenditure and risks including Covid-19, the trustees are satisfied that the charity would remain viable for the foreseeable future even if no free reserves are held.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Our plans for implementing 'Creating the Future', our strategy which is outlined earlier in this report, include

- Focusing all our work on children, young people, and families – both direct delivery and signposting
- Continuing to grow our work with children and young people
- Developing a GP/Primary Care Centre at the Froud Centre in Manor Park. We hope to use this as an opportunity to create new community-based health programmes in partnership with a local GP practice, and to secure a long-term tenant for the building. We will also be changing the name of the Froud Centre to Aston-Mansfield Community Centre
- Working with the Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust on the redevelopment of the Forest Gate site
- Improving the financial sustainability of the organisation, by improving the profitability of the property assets, and the ways in which the Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust property assets are managed

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Aston-Mansfield is a registered charity (number 220085) and a company limited by guarantee (number 48350). The charity is governed by its Articles of Association. These were revised in the light of current legislation and adopted by the members on 14 April 2010.

We have between 7 and 15 trustees at any one time, two of whom are appointed by Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust. We aim to have a Board whose skills and diversity mix fit with Aston-Mansfield's strategic direction, core activities and regulatory requirements. Trustees are appointed through an open recruitment process, which includes an interview with the Chair, and at least one other Trustee, followed by confirmation by the Board.

There is an induction process for new trustees which includes an induction pack, introductory sessions with the Chief Executive and management team, and project visits. New trustees are supported by more experienced trustees through a 'buddying' system.

The trustees meet at least six times a year. Trustees are updated on significant regulatory and sector developments, and participate in training on core issues, for example safeguarding.

The day to day management of the charity is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer who consults regularly with the Chairman and reports to the trustees at each of their meetings.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:

- An annual review of the principal risks and uncertainties that the charity faces. This includes assessing the key success factors, critical dependencies, constraint factors and key milestones and performance indicators for the major changes encompassed in our strategy, Creating the Future, and an analysis of the highest impact risks to which Aston-Mansfield is exposed
- The establishment of policies, systems, and procedures to mitigate risks
- Strategic and operational plans and an annual budget, and progress reporting against plans and budget
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise or manage any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise

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The trustees have identified that the major risks are related principally to delays/blockages to redevelopment of the Durning Hall site, reputation risk due to redevelopment of Durning Hall site, the COVID-19 pandemic, failure to get sufficient returns on the development of a GP/Primary Care Centre at the Froud Community Centre in Manor Park, the risk of a major fire/flood/building related incident, exposure to a major safeguarding or data privacy incident, and long term financial sustainability. The Trustees have sought to mitigate risk where possible, particularly relating to ensuring that the organisation has access to appropriate governance, professional expertise, and management capability, and that there are plans for and investment in achieving financial sustainability.

On this basis the Trustees are satisfied that all material risks are managed effectively, and that the charity will be funded adequately for the foreseeable future.

PAY POLICY FOR SENIOR STAFF

The directors consider that the Board of Directors, who are the charity's trustees, and the Chief Executive Officer comprise the key management personnel of the charity, in charge of directing and controlling, running, and operating the charity on a day to day basis. All trustees give of their time freely, and no trustee received remuneration in the year. Details of trustees' expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in note 14 and note 20 of the accounts.

The pay of the Chief Executive is reviewed by the trustees annually, and a Remuneration Committee, whose role includes setting the remuneration of the Chief Executive, was established in July 2018. Any increase is based on benchmarking against pay levels in other comparator charities, and performance against agreed objectives.

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 17 of The Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission in determining the activities undertaken by the charity.

The charity's charitable purpose is detailed in its objects, which are to develop, for the public benefit, the community wealth of East London and promote a diverse and inclusive society in which all are free to participate.

Delivery of public benefit is achieved through direct provision of services through the charity's work with children, young people, and families and through the use of its community buildings. The charity is actively engaged in working in partnership with other voluntary sector organisations, and the local authority to ensure an enhanced quality of life to members of the community.

FUNDRAISING PRACTICE AND PERFORMANCE

Aston-Mansfield's fundraising is largely focused on raising funds from Trusts and Foundations and earning income from the public through charity shop sales. The main source of income raised from the public is trading activity through the charity shop. Hence the charity is not signed up to any voluntary fundraising regulation. All fundraising activity is undertaken by Aston-Mansfield staff and volunteers, and there have been no complaints received by Aston-Mansfield about its fundraising activities.

SISTER CHARITY

Aston-Mansfield has a sister charity, Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust (AMCT) to which Aston-Mansfield is connected. The two charities have similar objects, which encompass supporting and developing disadvantaged communities in East London.

Aston-Mansfield achieves its impact through the direct provision of services to children and young people and families, and through renting space in the community buildings to other groups and organisations in the not for profit sector. Additionally, it provides resources, expertise and training to other groups and organisations in the not for profit sector, thus enabling those organisations to deliver their services to their clients and communities. The Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust is also a Registered Social Landlord, with Aston-Mansfield acting as the managing agent for its social housing

The two charities are separate organisations, each with their own Charity Commission registration numbers, governance arrangements and financial management processes and procedures. The Aston-Mansfield Board currently has 11 Trustees, 4 of whom are Trustees of AMCT. The AMCT Board currently has 7 Trustees, 3 of whom are not a Trustee of Aston-Mansfield. We believe this balance of shared knowledge and independence is beneficial for both organisations. Board meetings are held and minuted separately. It should be noted that Aston-Mansfield prepares and reports on completely separate Accounts with its own reserves and a clear Reserves Policy.

As Aston-Mansfield's work meets AMCT's funding criteria, the charity applies to AMCT for a grant on an annual basis. The size of the grant awarded depends on several factors including the level of disposable income available to AMCT, the performance of Aston-Mansfield in the previous year, and the areas of work for which the grant is sought. Aston-Mansfield reports regularly on its performance to AMCT. AMCT also awards grants to other charities, through an open application process, based on defined priorities and funding criteria.

The charity remains grateful to AMCT for its generosity in this matter, but recognises this arrangement is dependent on several factors, not least the current economic climate and property markets, and current support is no guarantee of future support. Aston-Mansfield acts as the managing agent for several AMCT's properties, and this enables Aston-Mansfield to spend more of its voluntary income on direct work with its beneficiary groups.

Whilst Aston-Mansfield is extremely grateful to AMCT for the continued support of its work, the Trustees recognise this support is agreed on an annual basis and can never be guaranteed. Aston-Mansfield is therefore continually seeking new sources of voluntary income to guarantee the future of its services.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of the Aston Mansfield for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time of the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as we are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

In preparing the Trustees Report, the Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption available to small companies and have not prepared a strategic report.

Approved by the Board on 21 September 2021 and signed on their behalf by:



C C Keen
Chairman

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Aston-Mansfield for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheets, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of the charitable company's net movement in funds, including the income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report (which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report (which incorporates the directors' report).

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the charitable company; or
- the charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 20, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Based on our understanding of the charitable company and the environment in which it operates, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to regulatory requirements for Charities, Companies, GDPR, Employment law, Ofsted reporting and Health and Safety, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, income tax and payroll tax.

We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls), and determined that the principal risks were related to posting inappropriate journal entries to revenue and management bias in accounting estimate and application of controls around authorisation of expenditure and payments. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

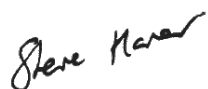
- Inspecting correspondence with regulators and tax authorities;
- Discussions with management including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulation and fraud;
- Evaluating management's controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities;
- Identifying and testing journals, in particular journal entries postings by unusual users or with unusual descriptions; and
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their critical accounting estimates.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
ASTON-MANSFIELD**

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Steven Harper
Senior Statutory Auditor
for and on behalf of Haysmacintyre LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors

27 September 2021

10 Queen Street Place
London
EC4R 1AG

ASTON-MANSFIELD

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

		Endowment Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Income	Notes					
Income from donations and legacies						
Donations		-	-	146	146	3,316
Income from charitable activities						
Grants	3	-	252,321	935,904	1,188,225	506,528
Project income		-	-	1,050	1,050	44,385
Rents and facility hire	4	-	-	182,664	182,664	623,413
Management and consultancy fees	5	-	-	-	-	21,935
Income from other trading activities						
Shop sales		-	-	6,700	6,700	65,110
Other income	6	-	-	172,206	172,206	18,286
Total income		-	252,321	1,298,670	1,550,991	1,282,973
Expenditure						
Expenditure on raising funds						
Fundraising		-	-	(76,702)	(76,702)	(75,287)
Shop operating costs		-	-	(43,526)	(43,526)	(50,009)
Expenditure on charitable activities						
Lifelong learning		-	(74,960)	(328,129)	(403,089)	(416,372)
Healthy living		-	(35,089)	(29,736)	(64,825)	-
Community development		-	(66,394)	(48,838)	(115,232)	(102,101)
Community buildings		(27,009)	-	(713,744)	(740,753)	(898,662)
Total expenditure	7	(27,009)	(176,443)	(1,240,675)	(1,444,127)	(1,542,431)
Net income/(expenditure)		(27,009)	75,878	57,995	106,864	(259,458)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-
Fund balances as at 1 April 2020		1,501,434	77,225	107,306	1,685,965	1,945,423
FUND BALANCES AT 31 MARCH 2021		£1,474,425	£153,103	£165,301	£1,792,829	£1,685,965

There were no recognised gains and losses other than those stated above.

No separate Summary Income and Expenditure Account has been produced as this statement incorporates all Income and Expenditure. Net income for the purposes of Companies Act 2006 excludes income and expenditure in respect of endowment funds.

Excluding movements on endowment funds, net surplus for the year was £133,873 (2020: net expenditure £232,449).

A full comparative Statement of Financial Activities is included at note 23.

The notes on pages 27 to 42 form part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET

AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	10	1,673,770	1,705,465
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks and work in progress		347	608
Debtors	11	66,416	66,160
Cash at bank and in hand		265,732	98,404
		<u>332,495</u>	<u>165,172</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(213,436)</u>	<u>(184,672)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>119,059</u>	<u>(19,500)</u>
NET ASSETS		<u><u>£1,792,829</u></u>	<u><u>£1,685,965</u></u>
Funds:			
Endowment Fund	16	1,474,425	1,501,434
Restricted Fund	17,21	153,103	77,225
Unrestricted Fund	18	165,301	107,306
TOTAL NET ASSETS AT 31 MARCH 2021	19	<u><u>£1,792,829</u></u>	<u><u>£1,685,965</u></u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by Board of the Trustees on 22 September 2021 and were signed below on its behalf by:



Christopher C Keen
Chairman



Alex Minford
Treasurer

The notes on pages 27 to 42 form part of these financial statements.

ASTON-MANSFIELD

CASHFLOW STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
CASH GENERATED/USED IN OPERATING ACTIVITIES	13	168,058	(143,205)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	10	(730)	-
(DECREASE)/INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS IN THE YEAR		167,328	(143,205)
<i>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</i>			
Cash balances at 1 April 2020		98,404	241,609
CASH BALANCES AT 31 MARCH 2021		£265,732	£98,404

The notes on pages 27 to 42 form part of these financial statements.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

Accounting Basis

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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) (second edition, effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Aston-Mansfield meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s). These financial statements have been drawn up in the historical accounting basis, except that certain freehold properties are carried at valuation.

The financial statements incorporate the assets and liabilities of The Lady Trower Trust (Registered Charity number 303172) under a charity commission scheme dated 1994.

The accounts are prepared in pounds sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

Preparation of accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees consider there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The review of our financial position, reserves levels and future plans gives Trustees confidence the charity remains a going concern for the foreseeable future.

In reaching this conclusion, the trustees have considered the impact of Covid-19 on the Charity and have reviewed cash flow forecasts covering a period of more than one year from the date of approval of these accounts

Critical accounting judgements and estimates

In preparing these financial statements, management has made judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of the charities accounting policies and the reported assets, liabilities, income and expenditure and the disclosures made in the financial statements. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. No significant estimates, judgements or assumptions have been applied in the preparation of these financial statements.

Income recognition

Income from shop sales, rents and facility hire and management consultancy fees are accounted for when receivable. Grants are accounted for when the charity becomes entitled to the funding and donations are accounted for when received.

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that 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.

Direct costs, including directly attributable salaries, are allocated on an actual basis to the relevant areas of programme activity. Overheads and other salaries are allocated between expense headings on the basis of time spent.

Support costs which include central office administration are allocated across the categories of cost of raising funds', charitable activities and governance costs. The basis of allocation is set out in note 7 c). Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements relating to the general running of the charity, including costs of strategic planning for the longer term development of the charity.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost in the statement of financial activity.

Fixed Assets

Buildings are depreciated at a rate of 2% per annum.

Other assets are depreciated, in equal annual instalments, over their economic lives at the following rates:

Electronic equipment	25%
Furniture and other equipment	15%
Motor vehicles	25%
Froud Centre Adventure Playground	10%

Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments, including trade and other debtors and creditors are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost, on a first-in-first-out basis, and net realisable value.

Operating leases

Rentals payable are charged on a time basis over the term of the lease.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Foreign currency translation

The charities functional and presentation currency is pound sterling. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. All differences are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Employee benefits

These are funds subject to specific trusts generally declared by the donor or funds raised for a specific purpose.

- Short term benefits
Short term benefits including holiday pay are recognised as an expense in the period in which the service is received.
- Employee termination benefits
Termination benefits are accounted for on an accrual basis and in line with FRS 102.
- Pension scheme
Aston-Mansfield operates a defined contribution pension scheme for the benefit of its employees. The assets of the scheme are held independently from those of Aston-Mansfield in an independently administered fund. The pensions costs charged in the financial statements represent the contributions payable during the year.

Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are:

- **Unrestricted funds**

These are general funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

- **Restricted funds**

These are funds subject to specific trusts generally declared by the donor or funds raised for a specific purpose.

- **Endowment funds**

These are permanent funds and must be held indefinitely consisting of two sites of land and property. They are not expendable. However, one of the endowed assets may be changed, for instance the proceeds arising from the sale of the property might be invested in other suitable forms of endowed investment or in the other endowed property. These funds arise from the amalgamation of The Lady Trower Trust with those of the charity in 1994.

Taxation

The charity's activities are exempt from income tax and corporation tax. The charity is registered for Value Added Tax. Certain of the charity's activities are exempt or non-business activities for Value Added Tax purposes and consequently the charity is unable to reclaim all the Value Added Tax it incurs on its purchases. Expenditure in these financial statements is therefore shown inclusive of Value Added Tax suffered.

2. LEGAL STATUS

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of a winding up is limited to £0.50.

3. INCOME FROM GRANTS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Grant income classified within income from charitable activities		
Aston Mansfield Charitable Trust	719,097	379,000
Local government	133,557	-
Other statutory bodies	162,689	62,043
Corporate bodies	170,632	63,985
Trusts and Livery companies	2,250	1,500
	<u>£1,188,225</u>	<u>£506,528</u>

Income attributable to fundraising efforts is £383,770 (2020: £127,675).

4. RENTS AND SIMILAR INCOME

	2021	2020
	£	£
Property rental income	144,312	584,072
Wayleave income	37,982	37,982
Facility hire	370	1,359
	<u>£182,664</u>	<u>£623,413</u>

5. CONSULTANCY

	2021	2020
	£	£
Management and consultancy fees	-	21,857
Training	-	78
	<u>£-</u>	<u>£21,935</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

6.	OTHER INCOME			2021 £	2020 £
	Cost recoveries			16,591	17,283
	HMRC Coronavirus JRS			113,869	-
	Insurance claim			29,000	-
	Historical credit write back			12,386	-
	Sundries			360	1,003
				<u>£172,206</u>	<u>£18,286</u>
7.	EXPENDITURE	Staff Costs £	Support Costs £	Other direct Costs £	Total 2021 £
a)	Analysis of total expenditure				
	Cost of raising funds				
	Fundraising	67,287	9,415	-	76,702
	Shop operating costs	35,379	8,147	-	43,526
		<u>102,666</u>	<u>17,562</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>120,228</u>
	Charitable activities				
	Unrestricted funds				
	Lifelong learning	262,092	37,759	28,278	328,129
	Healthy Living	21,253	8,483	-	29,736
	Community development	35,089	13,749	-	48,838
	Community buildings	349,349	364,395	-	713,744
		<u>667,783</u>	<u>424,386</u>	<u>28,278</u>	<u>1,120,447</u>
	Restricted funds				
	Lifelong learning	34,203	23,208	17,549	74,960
	Healthy Living	34,883	206	-	35,089
	Community development	32,699	20,143	13,552	66,394
	Community buildings	-	-	-	-
		<u>101,785</u>	<u>43,557</u>	<u>31,101</u>	<u>176,443</u>
	Endowment Funds				
	Community buildings	-	27,009	-	27,009
		<u>-</u>	<u>27,009</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,009</u>
	Total expenditure 2021	<u>£872,234</u>	<u>£512,514</u>	<u>£59,379</u>	<u>£1,444,127</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

7. EXPENDITURE (continued)						Direct Costs £	Head Office £	Total 2021 £					
b) Analysis of staff costs													
Cost of raising funds													
Fundraising						67,287	-	67,287					
Shop operating costs						35,379	-	35,379					
Charitable activities													
Unrestricted funds													
Lifelong learning						167,793	94,299	262,092					
Healthy living						40	21,213	21,253					
Community development						19	35,070	35,089					
Community buildings						272,624	76,725	349,349					
Central services						227,307	(227,307)	-					
Restricted funds													
Lifelong learning						34,203	-	34,203					
Healthy living						34,883	-	34,883					
Community development						32,699	-	32,699					
Endowment fund													
Community buildings													
Total staff costs 2021						£872,234	£-	£872,234					
Total staff costs 2020						£870,801	£-	£870,801					
c) Analysis of support costs													
	Admin Costs £	Property Costs £	Travel Costs £	Finance Costs £	Depreciat'n £	Governance £	Head Office £	Total 2021 £					
Cost of raising funds													
Fundraising	7,706	-	-	1,709	-	-	-	9,415					
Shop operating costs	872	6,263	-	-	-	1,012	-	8,147					
Charitable activities													
Unrestricted funds													
Lifelong learning	-	-	-	-	-	790	36,969	37,759					
Healthy living	-	-	-	-	-	166	8,317	8,483					
Community development	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,749	13,749					
Community buildings	37,449	253,271	2,989	20,358	499	19,752	30,077	364,395					
Central services	6,381	-	-	19,050	4,916	58,765	(89,112)	-					
Restricted funds													
Lifelong learning	13,956	180	-	-	-	9,072	-	23,208					
Healthy living	-	-	-	-	-	206	-	206					
Community development	20,143	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,143					
Community buildings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
Endowment fund													
Community buildings	-	-	-	-	27,009	-	-	27,009					
Total support costs 2021						86,507	259,714	2,989	41,117	32,424	89,763	-	512,514

Central services staff costs and support costs are allocated to each of the programmes dependent on the volume of activity.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

7. EXPENDITURE (continued)	2021 £	2020 £
d) Analysis of governance costs		
Legal, consultancy and professional fees	53,438	77,137
Audit fees	16,026	17,300
Health and safety	20,943	8,279
Companies House	13	13
	<u>£90,420</u>	<u>£102,729</u>

	Staff Costs £	Support Costs £	Other direct Costs £	Total 2020 £
e) Analysis of total expenditure – prior year				
Cost of raising funds				
Fundraising	67,470	7,817	-	75,287
Shop operating costs	39,856	9,945	208	50,009
	<u>107,326</u>	<u>17,762</u>	<u>208</u>	<u>125,296</u>
Charitable activities				
Unrestricted funds				
Lifelong learning	210,900	78,694	10,722	300,316
Community development	37,160	6,568	541	44,269
Community buildings	436,970	433,359	-	870,329
	<u>685,030</u>	<u>518,621</u>	<u>11,263</u>	<u>1,214,914</u>
Restricted funds				
Lifelong learning	48,640	46,750	20,666	116,056
Community development	29,805	13,753	14,274	57,832
Community buildings	-	1,324	-	1,324
	<u>78,445</u>	<u>61,827</u>	<u>34,940</u>	<u>175,212</u>
Endowment Funds				
Community buildings	-	27,009	-	27,009
	<u>-</u>	<u>27,009</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,009</u>
Total expenditure 2020	<u>£870,801</u>	<u>£625,219</u>	<u>£46,411</u>	<u>£1,542,431</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

7. EXPENDITURE (continued)						Direct Costs	Head Office	Total 2020	
f) Analysis of staff costs – prior year						£	£	£	
Cost of raising funds									
Fundraising						67,470	-	67,470	
Shop operating costs						39,856	-	39,856	
Charitable activities									
Unrestricted funds									
Lifelong learning						142,654	68,246	210,900	
Healthy living						-	-	-	
Community development						24,943	12,217	37,160	
Community buildings						295,400	141,570	436,970	
Central services						222,033	(222,033)	-	
Restricted funds									
Lifelong learning						48,640	-	48,640	
Healthy living						-	-	-	
Community development						29,805	-	29,805	
Endowment fund									
Community buildings						-	-	-	
Total staff costs 2020						£870,801	£-	£870,801	
Total staff costs 2019						£918,847	£-	£918,847	
g) Analysis of support costs - prior year		Admin Costs	Property Costs	Travel Costs	Finance Costs	Depreciat'n	Governance	Head Office	Total 2020
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost of raising funds									
Fundraising		5,960	-	54	1,135	-	668	-	7,817
Shop operating costs		677	9,242	26	-	-	-	-	9,945
Charitable activities									
Unrestricted funds									
Lifelong learning		10,908	3,418	-	14,554	-	18,515	31,299	78,694
Healthy living		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Community development		270	210	30	455	-	-	5,603	6,568
Community buildings		54,424	226,390	4,157	59,899	1,201	22,360	64,928	433,359
Central services		54,332	62	10	7,017	4,747	35,662	(101,830)	-
Restricted funds									
Lifelong learning		14,361	5,453	-	2,628	-	24,308	-	46,750
Healthy living		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Community development		8,000	2,483	407	1,647	-	1,216	-	13,753
Community buildings		-	1,324	-	-	-	-	-	1,324
Endowment fund									
Community buildings		-	-	-	-	27,009	-	-	27,009
Total support costs 2020		£148,932	£248,582	£4,684	£87,335	£32,957	£102,729	-	£625,219

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

8. NET INCOME	2021 £	2020 £
Net income is stated after charging:		
Professional advice insurance including trustee indemnity cover	598	598
Depreciation	32,425	32,957
Audit fees	16,026	17,300
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
9. STAFF EMPLOYMENT	2021 £	2020 £
Salaries and wages	751,317	727,678
Social security costs	57,410	57,719
Pension costs	49,742	45,199
Other staff costs	13,765	21,670
Redundancy payments	-	18,535
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total Staff Costs (Note 7)	£872,234	£870,801
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Two employees received remuneration for the year in the band £60,000 to £70,000 (2020 – 2) and pension cost of £26,299 (2020 – £23,690), were paid in relation to these employees.

The average monthly number of employees during the year was made up as follows:

	2021		2020	
	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time
Community work	28	7	26	6
Central Administration	-	5	-	5
Fundraising	-	2	-	2
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	28	14	26	13
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Full time equivalents	2021	2020
The number of full time equivalent posts is	29.63	28.00
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £86,809 (2020: £84,158).

10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	Land and Buildings £	Furniture and Equipment £	Motor Vehicles £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 April 2020	2,155,448	998,614	51,453	3,205,515
Additions	-	730	-	730
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2021	2,155,448	999,344	51,453	3,206,245
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2020	458,441	990,158	51,451	1,500,050
Charge for year	27,009	5,416	-	32,425
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2021	485,450	995,574	51,451	1,532,475
Net Book Value				
At 31 March 2021	1,669,998	3,770	2	1,673,770
At 31 March 2020	1,697,007	8,456	2	1,705,465

All assets are used for charitable purposes.

11. DEBTORS	2021 £	2020 £
Aston Mansfield Charitable Trust	16,659	12,571
Rent Receivable	23,705	41,295
Other debtors and prepayments	26,052	12,294
	<u>£66,416</u>	<u>£66,160</u>
12. CREDITORS: due within one year	2021 £	2020 £
Deferred income	141,613	45,528
Taxation and social security	-	15,643
VAT payable	610	938
Other creditors and accruals	71,213	122,563
	<u>£213,436</u>	<u>£184,672</u>

13. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	2021 £	2020 £
Net movement in funds	106,864	(259,458)
Depreciation and amortisation	32,425	32,957
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	261	(154)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	28,764	15,201
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(256)	68,249
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operations	£168,058	(£143,205)

14. DIRECTORS/TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION

No director has received any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses (2020: Nil).

15. CHARITY COMMISSION SCHEME

Under a scheme approved by the Charity Commissioners in 1994, the Golden Jubilee Trust merged with Aston-Mansfield and Aston-Mansfield also became the corporate trustee of the Lady Trower Trust, which is the proprietor of the land at Lambourne End and Burges Road, East Ham. Their accounts are merged with those of this charity with effect from 1 October 1993.

16.	ENDOWMENT FUNDS	Movement in funds			
	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
Land					
Burges Road East Ham E6	180,000	-	-	-	180,000
Lambourne End	1,321,434	-	(27,009)	-	1,294,425
	<u>£1,501,434</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>(£27,009)</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£1,474,425</u>

Expenditure reflects depreciation of the Lambourne End Property.

17. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Lambourne End – Lake	2,979	-	-	-	2,979
East End Community Foundation	-	21,531	(11,590)	-	9,941
London City Airport	3,000	-	-	-	3,000
Community Connectors	-	63,007	(45,540)	-	17,467
Big Lottery Fund Grant	28,101	62,689	(43,068)	-	47,722
City Bridge Trust	21,223	24,500	(38,030)	-	7,693
Legacy Income	17,860	-	(3,495)	-	14,365
London Cycling Grant	4,062	1,994	(3,001)	-	3,055
London Community -Response Fund	-	49,600	(21,405)	-	28,195
LB Newham	-	29,000	(10,314)	-	18,686
	<u>£77,225</u>	<u>£252,321</u>	<u>(176,443)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>£153,103</u>
	Balance at 1 April 2019	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Lambourne End - Lake	2,979	-	-	-	2,979
BLF Capital	1,324	-	(1,324)	-	-
East End Community Foundation	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
London City Airport Community Grant	-	3,000	-	-	3,000
Youth Provider's Partnership	-	41,358	(41,358)	-	-
Big Lottery Fund Grant	28,468	62,043	(62,410)	-	28,101
City Bridge Trust	31,055	48,000	(57,832)	-	21,223
Legacy Income	19,000	-	(1,140)	-	17,860
London Cycling Grant	2,225	2,985	(1,148)	-	4,062
	<u>£85,051</u>	<u>£167,386</u>	<u>(£175,212)</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£77,225</u>

A full description of each fund is shown at note 21.

18. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	21,716	1,298,670	(1,240,675)	85,590	165,301
Designated Fund	85,590	-	-	(85,590)	-
	<u>£107,306</u>	<u>£1,298,670</u>	<u>(£1,240,675)</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£165,301</u>

18. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS (continued)

	Balance at 1 April 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2020 £
General Fund	125,754	1,115,587	(1,340,210)	120,585	21,716
Designated Fund	206,175	-	-	(120,585)	85,590
	<u>£331,929</u>	<u>£1,115,587</u>	<u>(£1,340,210)</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£107,306</u>

During the year the designated funds was utilised on security and other cost associated with decanting of Durning Hall Flats as well as other one-off expenditure as agreed by the board. The designated funds have all been used in the year to support the work of the charity through the Covid-19 Pandemic.

19. NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

Current year

	Endowment Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Unrestricted Fund £	Total 2021 £
Fixed Assets	1,669,999	-	3,771	1,673,770
Current Assets	-	153,103	179,392	332,495
Current Liabilities	(144,672)	-	(68,764)	(213,436)
Inter-fund Loan	(50,902)	-	50,902	-
Net Funds	<u>£1,474,425</u>	<u>£153,103</u>	<u>£165,301</u>	<u>£1,792,829</u>

Previous year

	Endowment Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Unrestricted Fund £	Total 2020 £
Fixed Assets	1,697,008	-	8,457	1,705,465
Current Assets	-	77,225	87,947	165,172
Current Liabilities	(144,672)	-	(40,000)	(184,672)
Inter-fund Loan	(50,902)	-	50,902	-
Net Funds	<u>£1,501,434</u>	<u>£77,225</u>	<u>£107,306</u>	<u>£1,685,965</u>

20. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions with individuals or trustees during the year (2020- nil).

Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee, although under the control of a different trustee board, is a connected charity with identical objects and having a common administration.

20. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (continued)

During the year the company received a grant of £815,097 (2020- £379,000) from Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust and provided services costing £14,882 (2020 -£14,519) to that charity. At the year-end Aston-Mansfield Charitable Trust owed Aston Mansfield £16,659 (2020 - £12,571) as disclosed in note 11.

The company is a member of Lambourne End Limited, a charitable company limited by guarantee. During the year the company did not provide any services to the charity (2020 - £ Nil) and no amount was owed to or due from Aston-Mansfield (2020 - £Nil).

21. RESTRICTED FUNDS**Lambourne End Lake**

In 2007 the Environment Agency provided a grant towards the capital cost of providing a lake at Lambourne End. These funds would be utilised once the planning permission is granted and construction work commences on the lake.

East End Community Foundation

A six-week programme of positive activities for young people during the summer holidays including targeted sessions for transitional youth and youth at risk of anti-social behaviour. The funding was provided by East End Community Foundation.

A further grant of £3,000 was given for PPE and digital sign-in devices.

London community response fund winter crisis response fund administered by East End Community Foundation of £10,000 was a grant for the emotional and practical support for the specific issue's families were facing during the pandemic. This includes managing children's development and presenting behaviours which indicate mental health issues.

	Movement in funds			
	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
PPE	-	3,000	(3,000)	-
Positive activities for youth	-	8,531	(6,090)	2,441
Crisis response	-	10,000	(2,500)	7,500
Total	£-	£21,531	(£11,590)	£9,941

London City Airport Community Fund

This grant is funded by London City Airport to deliver 10 days of activity for young people in Newham moving between primary and secondary education-to develop resilience, life-skills, and confidences in those young people

Community Connectors

Aston-Mansfield Community Connectors are funded through a partnership bid with East London Foundation Trust and Community links. This fund two community connectors roles based in the North of the borough covering Forest Gate and Manor Park neighbourhoods.

Working directly within the NHS, Clinical Commissioning Group and with GP practices, the community connectors work with registered patients with Mental Health Diagnosis. Their role is to engage with the patients and connect them to local activities, initiatives and VCS, Self-help groups and volunteers and support them with addressing issues such as debt management, family disputes and legal matters around housing and access.

Big Lottery Fund Grant

The Youth4Youth project is funded by the Big Lottery for the development of young leaders and supporting them to campaign/engage in social action relating to local issues which concern them. The project is based on a model of co-production and co-design, which enables young people to develop their leadership skills.

21. RESTRICTED FUNDS (continued)

City Bridge Trust

The grant is to support voluntary and community groups to understand and implement sound finance procedures and practices. By helping groups establish good systems that will grow with their group, trustees, donors and funders can have confidence that money is being used and recorded correctly. Annually the programme involves 6 training or workshop sessions, mentoring by staff and experienced volunteers, the development of factsheets and a toolkit to guide groups through the finances. The extension funding is for 2 years, and funds 2-part time staff posts previously funded for three years so this has been a five-year programme.

Legacy

An amount of £19k was received in the prior year with a request for it to be contributed towards a farm project. This income has been restricted to Aston-Mansfield's activities and expenditures at Lambourne End and other Healthy eating/living initiatives.

London Cycling Grant

This is a grant funded by Transport for London and managed by the environmental regeneration charity, Groundwork. It promotes cycling as not only a means of transport, but also a route to greater personal freedom, better health and well-being and stronger, more social communities. Through this grant, children and parents at Little Manor receive cycling tuition for two hours on a weekly basis for four weeks and then go on a cycle adventure.

London Community Response

This was funded by London Community Response Fund and administered by the City Bridge Trust. The purpose of the grant was for supporting small local organization, delivered through our existing fitter finance team. The outcomes are for small local groups to become more financially sustainable through fundraising support.

The grant also provides funding towards our community centres core cost during the pandemic. Initially the funding was (up to) six months, but an extension of this work has been granted to August 21, which will enable the team to reach more groups in need of capacity support.

London Borough of Newham (LBN)

The Fitter Finance team worked closely with the London Borough of Newham as part of the COVID RESPONSE Strategy.

LBN Community Neighbourhood team worked with Aston-Mansfield Fitter finance to develop a capacity building service for the Voluntary Community Sector (VCS) to help them increase and respond to their immediate communities. The first part of the fund provided bespoke packages of support to groups referred in by the Neighbourhood teams.

LBN provided a further £15,000 for a partnership bid with Compost London CIC to continue with extremely focused groups who needed specific support to make them funding ready.

Many of the small VCS groups are from BAME communities such as the Somali association, ASHOK vision and Trinity Centre all based in Newham providing local services. In total over £100,000 extra income has been brought into the borough via the fundraising support given to the groups.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

21. RESTRICTED FUNDS (continued)

An additional grant of £4K was given for the children's project to purchase IT equipment and play packs.

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Movement in funds		Balance at 31 March 2021 £
		Income £	Expenditure £	
Covid Response (part 1)	-	15,000	(8,250)	6,750
Covid Response (part 2)	-	10,000	(1,000)	9,000
Covid-19 Community grant	-	4,000	(1,064)	2,936
Total	£-	£29,000	(£10,314)	£18,686

22. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Lambourne End Limited

Aston-Mansfield is a member of Lambourne End Limited and in the event of winding-up it has undertaken to contribute an amount not exceeding £25,000.

23. COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020)

		Endowment Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	2020 Total £
Income	Notes				
Income from donations and legacies					
Donations		-	-	3,316	3,316
Income from charitable activities					
Grants	3	-	126,028	380,500	506,528
Project income		-	41,358	3,027	44,385
Rents and facility hire	4	-	-	623,413	623,413
Management and consultancy fees	5	-	-	21,935	21,935
Income from other trading activities					
Shop sales		-	-	65,110	65,110
Other income	6	-	-	18,286	18,286
Total income		-	167,386	1,115,587	1,282,973
Expenditure					
Expenditure on raising funds					
Fundraising		-	-	(75,287)	(75,287)
Shop operating costs		-	-	(50,009)	(50,009)
Expenditure on charitable activities					
Lifelong learning		-	(116,056)	(300,316)	(416,372)
Healthy living		-	-	-	-
Community development		-	(57,832)	(44,269)	(102,101)
Community buildings		(27,009)	(1,324)	(870,329)	(898,662)
Total expenditure	7	(27,009)	(175,212)	(1,340,210)	(1,542,431)
Net income/(expenditure)		(27,009)	(7,826)	(224,623)	(259,458)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Fund balances as at 1 April 2019		1,528,443	85,051	331,929	1,945,423
FUND BALANCES AT 31 MARCH 2020		£1,501,434	£77,225	£107,306	£1,685,965