

WEST BLETCHLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

NOTES TO ACCOMPANY THE END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS FOR 2023/24

The End of Year Accounts for the financial year 2023, as far as possible, reflect accurately the true picture of the income, expenditure and financial assets of the West Bletchley Community Association.

This was the second year of comparable normality since Covid and its associated consequences. It saw the return of many of the user groups and their members, almost to a level of that prior to the pandemic, but which were supplemented by new initiatives. The pandemic hit the Association hard, to such an extent that closure seemed inevitable.

INCOME

As the Association does not receive any automatic Subsidies or Grants it relies solely for income on hiring out its facilities to community groups who provide a wide range of activities across the whole week from Monday to Sunday. This was supplemented by small grants from various sources either for general use but more often for specific purposes. For example, this year has seen an extension of activities all of which are community based such as the Warm Space initiative funded by Bletchley Parish Council. Other activities included a Coronation Breakfast, a Christmas Party and Special Events for the area; some of which were paid for by small grants whilst others wholly by the Association.

Rising costs have increased the need for more income but this raises a problem which has affected the Association for a number of years, in that the amount charged to the Groups cannot be increased easily. The Association has always been faced with no automatic subsidy and hire charges which must be contained; Users would leave for cheaper venues. The Association has constantly absorbed any cost increases in order to retain equilibrium of users/costs. The Association has also discussed alternate/possible ways of increasing income but has not made any progress as yet.

The income this year has been remarkably buoyant considering the general economy affecting a cost of living crisis for many. But thanks to the new initiatives it has outstripped the rise in costs.

EXPENDITURE

According to the Lease of the Centre, put simply, the Association is responsible for the internal aspects of the building, including Public Liability, running costs, internal maintenance etc. whilst Milton Keynes City Council (Landlord) is responsible for the building and fabric. The

costs obviously are not inconsiderable; the dramatic rise in utility costs plus our duty to provide a clean warm and safe environment for users, staff and volunteers, has resulted in a slight increase to the total expenditure over the year.

INVESTMENTS

The interest rates in the financial year have improved and are the best since the so called 'crash' of 2008. However, the Association has retained the same parties for investments, i.e. Shawbrook Bank Bond as the illiquid account, and the Santander Business Account for the liquid account from which we may easily transfer monies to the current account if necessary.

Although the Association is constantly on the look-out for better rates of interest it is not easy due to stringent bank rules with regard to laundering of monies and because Banks and Building Societies, perhaps surprisingly, will not deal with Village Halls, Community Centres and the like. Nevertheless the Association will always be on the look-out to improve the finances.

FUTURE

The Association has experienced a very successful year both in increased activities and finances but in the next financial year negotiations will take place for a new Lease.

KEN SISSON TREASURER TO THE WEST BLETCHLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

West Bletchley Community Association

Receipts And Payments For The Year Ending 31st March 2024

Confidential

[illegible]

BALANCE SHEET

2023/24

REPRESENTED BY:

BALANCE	31st March 2023
Current Bank Account	27,802.86
Santander Business A/C	34,721.86
Virgin Money	281.20
Shawbrook Bank	41,738.05
TOTAL	£104,543.97
Excess of Income Over Expenditure	6,169.11
TOTAL	£110,713.08

BALANCE	31st March 2024
Current Bank Account	32,642.57
Santander Business A/C	35,046.38
Virgin Money	284.72
Shawbrook Bank	42,739.41
	£78,070.51
TOTAL	£110,713.08

K.SISSON April 24

Report to the Trustees of West Bletchley Community Association

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024

Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and Examiner

The Trustees of the Association are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- ❖ examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- ❖ follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act,
- ❖ state whether particular matter(s) have come to my attention.

Basis of an Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanation from you as the Charity's Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, no opinion is given as to whether the account present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - ❖ to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - ❖ to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with accounting requirements of the 2011 Act, have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Chibuzor Chima-Okoro

ACCA

Association of Chartered Certified Accountants

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July 9, 2024