

Victoria Centre Annual Report

2021 – 2022

Contact details:

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During 2021 - 2022 funders and financial support was provided to Victoria Centre by:



Some of the many Friends of Victoria Centre:



MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE CHARITY TRUSTEES 2021-22

PRESIDENT	Godric Bader
VICE-PRESIDENT	Cynthia Bailey
CHAIR	Richard Jackson (To Jan 2022) / Tony Aslam (From Jan 2022)
VICE-CHAIR	Jennifer Dixon, and Richard Jackson (From January 2022)
SECRETARY	Gill Mercer (To January 2022) Vacant from October 2021
TREASURER	Brian Emerson (to October 2021) Vacant from October 2021
U.R.C. REPRESENTATIVES	Eira Billings
N.R.E.C REPRESENTATIVES	Anjona Roy
WELLINGBOROUGH COUNCIL REPS	Cllr Tony Aslam (to May 2021)
WELLINGBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL	Cllr Elayne Francis (from May 2021) Cllr Philip Irwin (from May 2021)
NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL	Cllr Jonathan Ekins (from May 2021)
COUNTY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES	Cllr Graham Lawman (to April 2021) Cllr Gill mercer (to April 2021)
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS	Nasreen Imtiaz (From October 2021)
Rosemary Abram	Maria Lloyd (to October 2021)
Pauline Jafarian	Elayne Francis (to May 2021)
Tony Aslam (from May 2021)	Jonathan Ekins (to May 2021)

OTHER INFORMATION

CENTRE MANAGER	Kevin Johnstone
PRINCIPAL OFFICE	46-50 Palk Road, Wellingborough, Northants, NN8 1HR
BANKERS	Barclays Bank plc Unity Trust Bank
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	AR Business Consultancy Ltd 62 Polwell Lane, Barton Seagrave, Kettering, NN15 6UB

Godric Bader – President of Victoria Centre, 1982 to 2022.

Lived, 1923 to 2022.

Godric Bader has been president of Victoria Centre since the passing of Ernest Bader.

Like his father before him Godric had vision of a better world, and did what he could to ensure that Victoria Centre was a place where that vision was advanced. Giving financial support, moral leadership and practical leadership, Godric remains an example to current and future custodians of Victoria Centre.

As a reminder of best principles, I take an extract from the book “The Man Who Gave His Company Away” – by Susanna Hoe: the biography of Ernest Bader. As Godric became successor to his father within the Scott Bader Commonwealth:

Chapter: No Dying of the Light

“Rage, rage against the dying of the light” – Dylan Thomas.

..... What Godric clearly wants to see is supervisors and managers aware that they are servant/leaders and not a management elite; that they are a catalyst for common effort, one of a group, a co-ordinator, not in charge.

As current manager of Victoria Centre I take these words to heart, and I hope that I work to the standard they set. All the good that Victoria Centre attempts to do, and all the good that is achieved is only done as a team effort. No involved person, no worker, funder or supporter, no volunteer or trustee or client or member should escape praise when, together, we achieve betterment within our Wellingborough communities.

Godric Bader. Rest In Peace.



Kevin Johnstone, Centre Manager in 2022.

Chair's Statement



Welcome to all who are attending our 2022 AGM and those who will be reading this Annual Report.

Here I capture a summary of Victoria Centre progress since my term as Chair began, with reference to events before that.

This year's Annual Accounts builds on the work done by Brian Emerson acting Treasurer to October 2021.

His work to establish the Financial Handbook (approved Feb 2022) created a sound basis for financial probity and processes throughout all the Charity's activities.

The new team in the office, Diana Trickett, Bogdan Cesauanu have quickly and efficiently adopted all the required processes. The new Manager Kevin Johnstone follows in the previous Manager's footsteps by bringing in new funds and building the Charity's persona throughout the town and local area. The resulting hiring's and publicity have resulted in more outreach and rebuilding of Victoria Centre community services to levels similar to pre-Covid. The Centre's financial situation not yet consistently reliable and stable.

My sincere thanks to all the staff and the manager for making Victoria centre a place for happiness, viable for the community to use safely.

External factors other than the pandemic have impacted on the Centre and this is not just the current economic situation. The split from a county authority to two unitary meant the disappearance of well known trustee representatives from both the Borough Council and the County Council. This makes it difficult to have support for grant applications to particularly to the new North Northants Council. The Town Council no longer has the powers or the finance that the Borough Council had.

Victoria Centre Constitution invites local bodies including local government to nominate representative Trustees. It is within the control of the nominating organisation whether they take up the place or not, and a number of these places have not been taken up. This has created a weakness in the operation of the Charity. Falling attendance at Management Committee meetings affects decision making. Trustees are reviewing the constitution to bring it up to date. There is an urgency to fill the empty Officer posts of Treasurer and Secretary.

Membership has also fallen with an impact on income and donations. This is gradually being turned around, with now 41 members as against 50 members pre-Covid. We intend to grow membership continually, and to reinstate member-oriented events to inform, involve and recognise this involvement.

Thank you to Gill Mercer for her hard work before stepping down in May 2022, Brian Emerson, who continued active support after stepping down in 2021, and our Accountant, Andrea Rudge, who's advice is always valued.

I would like to thank United Reformed Church – our ever-supportive landlord; and Sofawise for the kind donation in the sum of £2500. This money went towards our new stair lift.

A special Thank You and congratulations to Marta and Childcare for winning The Jubilee Scarecrow Festival Competition.

And Thank You to all our funders, supporters, hirers and clients. Too many to list, but we are truly grateful to work with you.

I thank each and every one who is linked to the Victoria Centre.

Tony Aslam, Chair

4th October 2022.

Manager's Statement



Hello to all the members and friends of Victoria Centre.

I am now approaching a year since I was appointed to the role of Centre Manager and it has been a year full of variety, challenges, learning and new contacts. Much of it has been fun, and all of it has been beyond fascinating as I learn about the workings of the Third Sector of the UK economy.

As I reflect on what has gone well and could be done better, I am confident that Victoria Centre has made a real positive difference in the lives of many in Wellingborough and surrounds. When I took the reins Covid still had strong impact on our ability to hire out, to invite in and to re-establish a personal relationship with local people. That had led to isolation, depression and fear in many. By attaining a new balance of infection prevention to engagement our team have opened up our halls and rooms to an extent that there is significant competition for the most sought-after timings. This points to a possibility of making the lesser used time slots more available, and in this we can satisfy more bookings, more engagement and more socialisation. I can also see spaces that I would love to overhaul, so that those become available at peak times. In short, Victoria Centre has greater potential than we have yet reached.

As to achieving our mission of improving the lives of the people of Wellingborough, there is plenty to be celebrated. With Western Power sponsorship we raised workshops on home fuel efficiency, presenting on both traditional and new ways to heat well. This will be reprised in October / November 2022, as needs are greater.

We had another small fund from Western Power Distribution to help with holiday hunger. This allowed us to give a weekly shopping selection over the summer holidays to twenty local families, representing seventy to eighty people in food (and other) poverty.

As Partners to the Household Support Fund we thought we could serve sixty households, and ended up serving well over two hundred, by distributing £100 vouchers.

But our flagship service has, without a doubt, been the work we have done in support of Ukraine evacuees. I am proud to say that The Centre's ICNA process was the template for new similar operations at centres from Wellingborough to Corby. Apart from that we met many wonderful people and new friends from Ukraine.

Alongside Wellingborough partners of St Marks Church, Glamis Hall, Marion Turner Hawes, community and faith groups, Victoria Centre turned much of its operation over to the urgent assistance needed for evacuees and their sponsors. Along the way we found a host of volunteers, generously giving their time and energies to support our efforts. Especial thanks goes to Tony, Pete, Jan, Sunny, Syed, & Rosemary, for their constant turn-out at our English Language workshop, and to Edeltraud for running a more formal English Language Class, weekly, from March to October. Also thanks to Farnush, who ran a class dedicated to women learning English, each Tuesday.

I cannot end without commenting on my deep appreciation for all the staff at Victoria Centre. Each one has contributed enormously to our service and success. Our Coordinator, Diana is a dependable pillar of The Centre. Our Childcare staff continue to amaze me with their work and professionalism. We couldn't run without the dedication of our cleaning and maintenance staff. I will single out Bogdan Cesauanu, who is technically a part-timer, but who continues to work at home to meet immense demands to fix clients problems to the small hours.

As we move to 2023 our administrative team – with a year under our belts – will be better equipped to serve the community. We look forward to doing that.

Kevin Johnstone. Centre Manager. October 2022

Hirer's Reports:

WHAGG Report for Victoria Centre.

Women have a Go Group started in 2007 at Victoria Centre, Wellingborough.

We are group of about 10 women, who are interested mainly in Textile crafts. We meet every Thursday morning, 10.00-12.00, (except August).

Due to Covid, the group did not meet at Victoria Centre but it did not stop the ladies from actively working at home by themselves and making 1,994 various items like Face Masks, Baby Blankets, Cardigans, Hats, Toys, Innocent Smoothie Bottle Hats, Hearts, Twiddle Muffs, Quilts, Lapel Flags, Fish and Chips jumpers, Mittens, Eye Masks, Scarfs etc. which have been donated to various individuals and organisations of the community, which are:

1. Baby Basics
2. Nene Valley Community Action
3. Wollaston is Kind
4. Age UK.
5. Northampton General Hospital for their 'Connecting Hearts' Appeal
6. Northampton General Hospital for their ICU patients
7. Northamptonshire Community Foundation
8. St. Martins's Organisation for the homeless
9. Linus Group
10. Ukraine support with lapel flags
11. Local Library

I am pleased to say that the group has resumed meeting again every Thursday.

We always welcome women who have interest in craft to join this group and have a go.

Kala Chauhan. September 2022

Support Northamptonshire Report for Victoria Centre



Support Northamptonshire (SN) is an organisation with very similar missions to Victoria Centre (VC), though across a larger geographic area. Since their arrival SN and VC have found easy collaborations and common cause, with SN happy to lend their experience and methods to VC staff. In addition, VC benefits from regular rental of a lesser used office space.

NBCT is a collaboration of over 25 black organisations brought together as a direct result of the disproportionate impact of Covid on black communities Back Lives Matter to overcome health and other inequalities.

Serve Report for Victoria Centre



Serve now has an office at Victoria Centre. This is larger than they have been used to, and accommodates up to 5 staff, or more for meetings, and permits them to come-in-to-work rather than working at home. For Victoria Centre this brings in regular income from room hire, and allows easy collaboration, with the added benefit of being a “first choice” for Serve conference booking.

Serve Home Care: Our individually tailored Home-Based Care and Support services give people who need assistance with everyday living the choice to remain as independent as possible in the comfort of their own home. Whether you're looking for long- or short-term care and support at home for yourself or a loved one we would like to help. We provide a comprehensive range of flexible tailor-made care and support services that help people to remain in their own homes providing assistance from 30 minutes to 24 hours a day. SERVE have been supporting people to live independently in their own homes for over 40 years.

Regular Hirers:

ALS - Draw & Paint including life drawing	Dungeons & Dragons
ALS - German Folk Songs	NNC Weight management sessions
ALS ESOL Classes - Overflow sessions	Northants REC
ALS French Year 1 Part 1	Quality Coordinator
ALS NNC Eng Lang - Emilia	Roohi Salman
Barbells and Boobies Boxing	Roohi Salman - Halal Cafe
Bobbin Lace Making - Beginners - Part 1 (Adult Learning)	Stage Skill Workshop
Glorious Gospel of Christ - Sunday Worship	Trustee Meeting
HIIT with Kristine Grinvalde	U3A Art Group
Hindu community centre	U3A Tai Chi
Karate with Liam O'Reilly	Weekly Booking - Pilates with Mahala
Kids Yoga with Rabeena	Well spring Tai Chi
Labour Group Meeting	Wellingborough Civic Society
LW Kingsway Church	Dostiyo
LW Outreach meeting	Wellingborough Town Council
Milap Booking + ALS Sustainable Art for beginners	Wellness with Kristine - Herbalife
Wellingborough Lions Crafters (Via Sarah) childcare	WellSpring Tai Chi

Public Health Northamptonshire, in its “Well Northants” initiative is partnered with Victoria Centre in understanding the needs and voices of Victoria Ward. To this end we have posted thousands of leaflets through doors, done door-to-door surveys and held public events to invite direct involvement. Extract from the resulting report:

1. Well Northants in Victoria, Wellingborough. The story so far.....

Between April and August 2022, the Well Northants team and the Victoria Centre delivered a number of engagement events in Victoria. The events included doorstep conversations throughout the area, an Easter community event, street conversations and discussions with people attending activities in the community.

The team then held a community café (based on World Café methodology); in the daytime of 25 June 2022 at the Victoria Centre. At these events residents discussed the question, "What would a healthy Victoria Community look like?" Circa 21 residents attended.

About the area

Victoria is a ward and is located to the east of Wellingborough Town centre. It is also home to many migrants who have settled in Wellingborough and is one of the most diverse areas in the town.

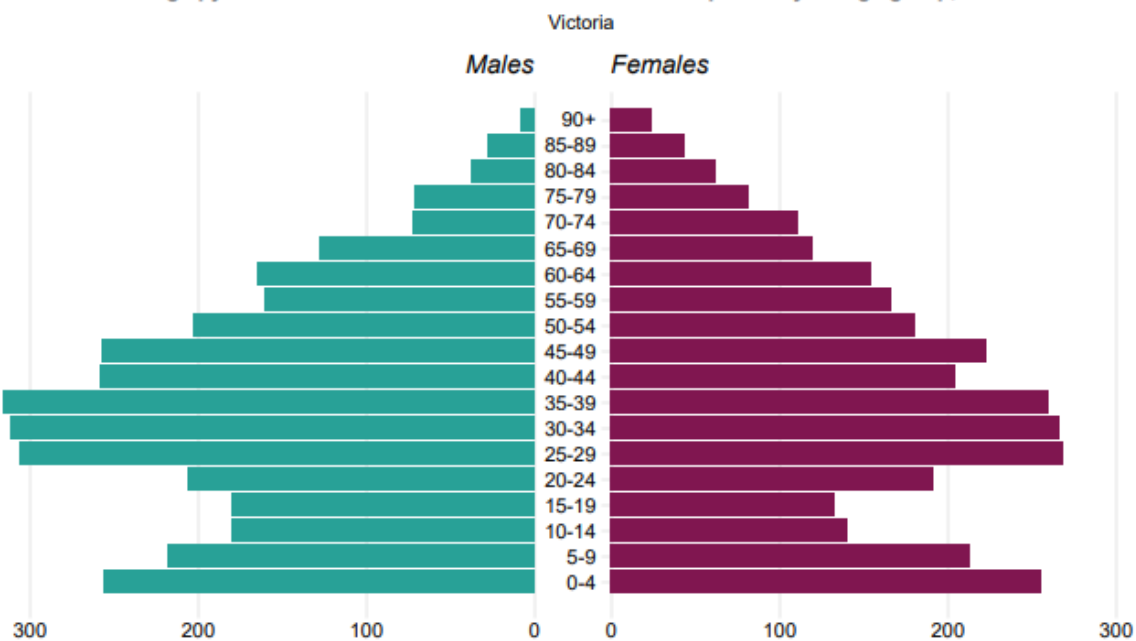
Population size

6,448

Age and Sex

There are more under 5s and less over 65s living in Victoria when compared to England averages.

Age pyramid for selection: male and female numbers per five-year age group, 2019



Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS) Small Area Mid-year Population Estimates, 2019

Population by age group, 2019, numbers

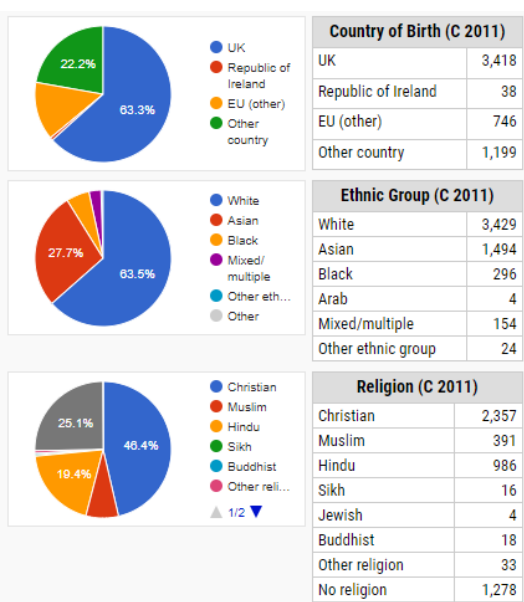
Indicators	Victoria	North Northamptonshire (LTLA 2021)	North Northamptonshire (UTLA 2021)	England
Population aged under 5 years	511	21,320	21,320	3,299,637
Population aged 5 to 15 years	822	50,406	50,406	7,517,042
Population aged 16 to 24 years	636	31,223	31,223	5,953,505
Population aged 25 to 64 years	3,695	180,457	180,457	29,163,061
Population aged 65 years and over	784	64,822	64,822	10,353,716
Total population	6,448	348,228	348,228	56,286,961

Source: ONS + Office for National Statistics (ONS) Small Area Mid-year Population Estimates + Office for National Statistics (ONS) Small area population estimates, England and Wales: mid-2019

Ethnicity

Indicators	Victoria	North Northamptonshire (LTLA 2021)	England
Black and Minority Ethnic Population (%)	36.5	6.6	
Population whose ethnicity is not 'White UK' (%)	51.8	12.3	
Population who cannot speak English well or at all (%)	10.7	1.3	

Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS) Census 2011



Also:

Appendix 1: Victoria Centre Childcare

Appendix 2: Financial Report to March 2022

VICTORIA CENTRE

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 278215

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

**AR BUSINESS CONSULTANCY LTD
62 POLWELL LANE
BARTON SEAGRAVE
KETTERING
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
NN15 6UB**

VICTORIA CENTRE
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 278215

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VICTORIA CENTRE
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 278215
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE CHARITY TRUSTEES 2021-22

PRESIDENT	Godric Bader
VICE-PRESIDENT	Cynthia Bailey
CHAIR	Richard Jackson (To Jan 2022)/Tony Aslam (From Jan 2022)
VICE-CHAIR	Jennifer Dixon, and Richard Jackson (From January 2022)
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INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS	Nasreen Imtiaz (From October 2021) Rosemary Abram Maria Lloyd (to October 2021) Pauline Jafarian Elayne Francis (to May 2021) Tony Aslam (from May 2021) Jonathan Ekins (to May 2021)

OTHER INFORMATION

CENTRE MANAGER	Kevin Johnstone
PRINCIPAL OFFICE	46-50 Palk Road, Wellingborough, Northants, NN8 1HR
BANKERS	Barclays Bank plc Unity Trust Bank
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	AR Business Consultancy Ltd 62 Polwell Lane, Barton Seagrave, Kettering, NN15 6UB

VICTORIA CENTRE

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 278215

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES 2021-2022

1 Reference and administrative details of the Charity, its Trustees and Advisors

The Victoria Centre, 46-50 Palk Road, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire, NN8 1HR is a voluntary organisation formed in 1979 with a charitable constitution. It is a registered charity no. 278215. The Centre is governed by a Management Committee (MC). A full list of MC members (the Trustees) and of senior staff of the Centre can be found on page 1.

There are four principal partner organisations of the Centre. The Wellingborough United Reformed Church (URC), High Street, Wellingborough, owns the building in which the Centre operates, leasing it to the Centre at a peppercorn rent. The other founder member of the Centre, the Northamptonshire Rights and Equality Council (NREC), now engages only through membership of the MC. The Centre buys in financial services from Central Computers Manchester Ltd (Livepay) and its Independent Examiner, AR Business Consultancy Ltd.

2 Structure, Governance and Management

The Victoria Centre is governed through a written constitution, the objectives of which are at Paragraph 3 below. The MC described above is elected at the AGM. It comprises four members elected by the general membership, two nominated by the URC and two from the NREC. Local government changes in May 2021, to establish two unitaries in the county, mean that the Centre now has two representatives from Wellingborough Town Council and two from North Northamptonshire Council. In addition, the MC may co-opt up to four members. The four officers - Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, are elected at the AGM and must be members. All members have equal voting rights at MC meetings. Senior staff also attend but do not have voting rights. During 2021-22 there were various resignations and appointments due to external factors over which the Centre has no control. (See list on page previous page).

The management of the Centre was led by Centre Manager, Marion Turner-Hawes until November 2021. Kevin Johnstone was appointed manager in the same month.

There is a strategic business plan kept under review and development as the Centre mirrors society in pulling away from the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. There are service level agreements with major funders and there is a new room hire agreement to reflect the post-covid need to return to "normality". A programme is in place to review policies and to update the constitution.

3 Objective and Activities

The main purpose of the Centre is set out in its constitution as follows: "To promote the benefit of all those living or working in the Borough of Wellingborough without distinction of age, gender, sexuality, colour, national or ethnic origin, disability, caring/dependent responsibilities, political or religious opinions or for any other unjustifiable reason. This will be achieved by association with the local authorities, organisations and inhabitants in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation."

The Centre delivers these objectives by direct provision of facilities for children and young people, by providing an affordable and welcoming meeting place for community groups, especially those offering services to older people, by supporting and facilitating inter-faith activity and by offering incubation help, support and premises for emerging groups, particularly from disadvantaged or newly-arrived communities.

4 Reserve policy statement

The Trustees have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets (Free Reserves) held by the Charity should be £50,000. This equates to approximately three months' general expenditure and at this level they feel that they would be able to continue the current activities of the Centre. This situation is regularly monitored along with continually seeking additional sources of income to help fund the community projects undertaken. As at 31st March 2022, the Charity's free reserves amounted to £99,785.

5 Achievements and performance

The Centre has continued to pull away from the effects of the pandemic. Rooms gradually came back into use with two long-term office lettings to Support Northants and SERVE. This provides a steady income.

Facilities for Zoom or Teams meetings are now provided in the Lounge, enabling hybrid meetings as well as remote conferencing. This attracts business and also enables all Trustees to take part in meetings according to circumstances. Trustees learned to use these facilities during lockdown. SERVE consortium meetings for the local community are held in the Centre, in real time, to inform the community and exchange news. The Centre is a member of the Community Resilience Forum which is a totally online forum for the community, run by Jonathan Hornett. The use of social media by staff has enabled the Centre to reach more users.

The Childcare department continues to attract lots of custom under the leadership of Marta Jankowska.

The Centre developed and bid for resources to facilitate the arrival and support of refugees from both Afghanistan and Ukraine. This is supported by the ICNA project which continues its work.

All of the above owe much to the appointment and vision of the new manager, Kevin Johnstone, and to a new team in the office, Diana Trickett and Bogdan Cesauanu. A caretaker, Florin, has also been appointed. The Centre has a considerable number of accredited volunteers without whom the above achievements could not easily happen.

Membership numbers are disappointing and this needs a targetted campaign to attract new people. There is also a shortage of Trustees. Treasurer Brian Emerson went on to other life opportunities, resigning in October 2021. Secretary Gill Mercer retired in January 2022, with thanks for her hard work. Neither has been replaced but the search is ongoing. Trustee attendance at meetings has varied, which creates a risk to sound decision-making. The Centre is not alone in the sector with this problem as there seems to be a general reluctance for people to take up Trustee or officer posts.

6 Financial Review

Please see the IE report and financial statements for a detailed view of the finances.

The Centre has gone through an unsettled period with the change of Manager and office staff, after previous employees left for pastures new and we wish them well. It also owes much to the former Treasurer, Brian Emerson who created a detailed Financial Handbook and Levels of Authority. Both were approved by Trustees and are the basis for sound financial practice within the charity. The new manager and staff have proved to have many talents and a willingness to tackle varied financial and other activities and tasks.

Without a Treasurer, the Centre has been helped temporarily by the Independent Examiner, but it is urgent to find a replacement. Regular financial reports are provided to the MC by the Manager. One financial worry raised by the Manager is that, as the previously ample emergency funds are used, the Centre needs to secure more sources of regular income, which is proving difficult. The situation is being monitored. Funds for ongoing work to support Ukrainian refugees has yet to be released by the local authority and are being pursued.

7 Plans for the Future

A top priority must be to obtain a steady regular income. The Centre has modernised the building in physical and digital ways to enable a wide variety of community groups to use the facilities. Trustees are looking forward to re-establishing social events in many directions e.g. the URC and Children's department, and to creating opportunities in volunteering that could lead to further education or employment. Also, to providing information and services that support climate change strategies and to enable the public to be informed of these. We also hope to return to hosting arts and drama events.

Lastly, thanks go to all staff and fellow trustees who have worked so hard to keep the Centre alive (and kicking) during the last two difficult years and we look forward to our continued endeavours.

8 Funds held as custodian trustees for others

During 2021-2022 the Centre held no funds on behalf of others.

Jennifer Dixon - Vice Chair
14th September 2022

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S QUALIFIED REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF VICTORIA CENTRE

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 278215

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31st March 2022 which are set out on the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a Chartered Management Accountant.

It is my responsibility to:-

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- follow procedures laid down in the general directions given under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of 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 explanations from the Trustees concerning such matters.

Independent examiner's statement

I am pleased to report on accounts which represent a more 'normal' year for the Centre and for society in general, with only a relatively small legacy effect of Covid-19 lockdowns and restrictions.

On the face of it, the accounts look to be less healthy than for 2021 but it would be misleading to say that. Although total income of £186,095 is significantly down from £400,234 in 2021, this needs some analysis. In 2021, grant income was exceptionally high (£287,435), partly due to the availability of funding for Covid-related projects. In 2021-22, that figure is £41,796. Conversely, income generated through childcare and lettings is £130,876, compared to £70,222 in 2020-21 and donations amounted to £12,258 (2021 £2,433). Direct Covid-related income was also £20,000 less this year.

Regarding expenditure, overheads are £20,120 less than 2021. There was no expenditure on Local projects this year. Total employee costs are £17,009 up on last year, although childcare wages are £11,699 lower. Rates and Utilities, £12,879, are significantly higher than 2021 (£7,115) partly due to Council tax being payable which was waived in the previous two years. Bad debts were reduced almost completely during this year.

The high level of grant income in 2021 more than covered the overheads and contributed towards capital expenditure whereas in 2022 grant income covered only around 17% of total expenditure on overheads and capital and, although self-generated income was encouraging, the Centre spent more than its income, leading to a deficit for the year of £51,441. This is not necessarily worrying, due to the healthy financial position of the Centre at the start of the period. However, it is obviously not sustainable in the long term unless higher levels of grant funding can be secured, which cannot be guaranteed. It is therefore necessary to increase levels of self-generated income to ensure the future of the Centre at current spend levels.

At year end, the Centre had cash reserves of £79,320 (2021 £141,125), of which, £1,959 related to balances to be spent against restricted and designated grants. The funds carried forward of £99,785 are healthy and reassuring in the short-term.

During the year there were changes of managerial, administration and accounting personnel but, with the exception of some minor training requirements, I am happy that the staff, systems and procedures now in place are working well to enable efficient financial recording and reporting. I am, therefore, satisfied that these accounts represent a true and accurate reflection of the Centre's financial position.

A R Business Consultancy Ltd
62 Polwell Lane, Barton Seagrave, Kettering, Northamptonshire, NN15 6UB

VICTORIA CENTRE
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 278215
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>Funds</u> £	<u>Restricted</u> <u>Funds</u> £	<u>Total</u> <u>2021-2022</u> £	<u>Total</u> <u>2020-2021</u> £
Income from:					
Donations and Legacies	2	12,258	-	12,258	2,433
Charitable activities		144,033	29,796	173,829	397,774
Investments		8		8	27
Total Income		<u>156,299</u>	<u>29,796</u>	<u>186,095</u>	<u>400,234</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	3	189,840	47,696	237,536	257,656
Total expenditure		<u>189,840</u>	<u>47,696</u>	<u>237,536</u>	<u>257,656</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		(33,541)	(17,900)	(51,441)	142,578
Transfers between funds				-	-
Net movement of funds		(33,541)	(17,900)	(51,441)	142,578
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward 1 April 2021		131,367	19,859	151,226	8,648
Total funds carried forward 31 March 2022		<u>97,826</u>	<u>1,959</u>	<u>99,785</u>	<u>151,226</u>

VICTORIA CENTRE
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 278215
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022		2021	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	5		24,234		20,453
Current assets					
Debtors	6	9,520		12,325	
Bank		79,320		141,125	
		<u>88,840</u>		<u>153,450</u>	
Creditors					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	13,289		22,677	
Net current assets			75,551		130,773
Net assets			<u>99,785</u>		<u>151,226</u>
Charity funds					
Unrestricted funds	9		97,826		131,367
Restricted funds	10		1,959		19,859
			<u>99,785</u>		<u>151,226</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Management Committee on 14th September 2022

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees

.....
 Tony Aslam (Chair)

.....
 Jennifer Dixon (Vice Chair)

VICTORIA CENTRE
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 278215
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) General Information

The Victoria Centre is a charity registered in the United Kingdom. The address is shown on page 1. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are detailed in the Trustees' Report. The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

(b) Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in 2015 (FRS102) and in line with UK Accounting Standards and the Charities Act 2011. The charity has applied Update Bulletin 1 as published in February 2016 and does not include a cashflow statement on the grounds that it is applying FRS1021A.

(c) Incoming Resources

Donations and legacies

Donations, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature are recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Investment income

Interest is brought into account on a receivable basis.

Income from Charitable Activities

Income from Charitable Activities includes income received under contract or where entitlement to grant funding is subject to specific performance conditions and is recognised as earned. Grant income in this category provides funding to support performance activities and is recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

(d) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred.

Costs of Generating Funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income.

Charitable Activities includes expenditure associated with the provision of facilities and services in the Centre that relate directly to the Charitable Objects.

Governance Costs include those incurred in the governance of the Charity and its assets and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

(e) Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

All tangible Fixed Assets costing more than £500 are capitalised and included at cost including any incidental expenses of acquisition.

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost or valuation of all tangible fixed assets over the expected useful lives.

Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment - 20% reducing balance

(f) Fund Accounting

Funds held by the Charity are either:

Unrestricted general funds - which can be used in accordance with the Charitable Objects at the discretion of the MC.

Designated funds - set aside by the Trustees for specific future purposes or projects.

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

2 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Grants and funding

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>		
North Northamptonshire Council (ICNA)		11,326	11,326	11,326
CAF - Energy Grants		9,970	9,970	-
Northamptonshire Community Foundation		3,000	3,000	6,000
Scott Bader (Designated)		5,000	5,000	5,000
DEFRA - Daylight Centre (Healthy snacks)		500	500	5,000
National Lottery - Covid response			-	99,196
Power to Change - CCLORS			-	49,999
NNC ICNA (One Wellingborough)			-	15,000
One Wellingborough Urgent Support (Glamis)			-	13,485
NNC - Restart Grant	12,000		12,000	33,000
BCW (IT project)			-	10,000
BCW (Covid recovery grants)			-	39,429
Total Grants and Funding	12,000	29,796	41,796	287,435
<u>Other income</u>				
Donations	12,258	-	12,258	2,433
Lettings (2021 - refunded deposits)	23,394	-	23,394	(566)
Childcare	107,482	-	107,482	70,788
Project work (Glamis Hall)		-	-	19,216
Covid related income (HMRC)	889	-	889	20,884
Other income	268	-	268	17
Total Income	156,291	29,796	186,087	400,207

VICTORIA CENTRE

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 278215

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Unrestricted	Restricted		
	Funds	Funds	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
3 EXPENDITURE:				
Expenditure by income stream				
North Northamptonshire Council (ICNA)		12,619	12,619	11,326
Northamptonshire Community Foundation			-	6,000
Scott Bader - Equipment (Designated)	1,840	5,000	6,840	3,160
DEFRA - Daylight Centre		2,587	2,587	2,913
National Lottery - Covid response			-	99,196
Power to Change - CCLORS		4,100	4,100	45,899
One Wellingborough + Community Resilience		13,420	13,420	1,580
One Wellingborough Urgent Support (Glamis)			-	13,485
BCW (1W Urgent Support part 1)			-	33,000
BCW (IT project)			-	10,000
BCW (Covid recovery grants)			-	39,429
NNC Restart grant	12,000		12,000	-
CAF Fuel energy grant		9,970	9,970	-
	13,840	47,696	61,536	265,988
Non grant-related expenditure	185,839		185,839	12,121
Less capital expenditure	(137)	(9,702)	(9,839)	(20,453)
	199,542	37,994	237,536	257,656
Expenditure by type				
Childcare salaries, pensions and expenses	87,813		87,813	99,512
Core salaries and pensions	89,078		89,078	60,402
Employer's National Insurance	6,862		6,862	4,929
Staff training and welfare	1,287		1,287	-
Rates and utilities	12,879		12,879	7,115
Other premises costs, inc. refurb/H & S	6,745		6,745	23,974
Stationery, printing, telephone, postage	3,171		3,171	2,358
Computer and IT costs	1,610		1,610	3,193
Equipment hire, maintenance and expensed	4,356		4,356	4,664
Bank charges and interest paid	741		741	391
Subscriptions and licences	3,189		3,189	2,043
Insurance	2,935		2,935	3,094
Other costs	804		804	4,180
Depreciation	6,058		6,058	5,148
Donations (Feed the Need)			-	1,000
Amounts written off Customer balances	263		263	1,997
ICNA expenditure/Professional fees	5,250		5,250	10,127
Local Projects (Glamis Hall/WEcoGroup)			-	20,645
	233,041	-	233,041	254,772
Governance				
Accountancy, payroll, DBS, OFSTED	4,495	-	4,495	2,884
	237,536	-	237,536	257,656

VICTORIA CENTRE
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 278215

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

4 STAFF COSTS

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
Total gross wages	171,097	149,747
Redundancy pay		6,980
Employer's NI	6,862	4,929
Pension costs	2,340	1,634
Salaries allocated to restricted funds	(8,393)	(80,861)
	<u>171,906</u>	<u>82,429</u>

5 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	<u>Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£	£
Cost or Valuation			
As at 1st April 2021	66,183	66,183	41,139
Additions during year	9,839	9,839	25,044
As at 31st March 2022	<u>76,022</u>	<u>76,022</u>	<u>66,183</u>
Depreciation			
As at 1st April 2021	45,730	45,730	40,582
Charge for the year	6,058	6,058	5,148
As at 31st March 2022	<u>51,788</u>	<u>51,788</u>	<u>45,730</u>
Net Book Value			
As at 31st March 2021	20,453	20,453	557
As at 31st March 2022	<u>24,234</u>	<u>24,234</u>	<u>20,453</u>

6 DEBTORS

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
Due from users and clients	6,717	6,136
Prepayments	2,803	6,189
	<u>9,520</u>	<u>12,325</u>

7 CREDITORS

Trade creditors	5,090	1,567
Deferred income	2,750	2,029
Accruals	2,382	3,435
Social security, wages and pension	3,067	2,153
Loans	-	13,493
	<u>13,289</u>	<u>22,677</u>

8 TRUSTEES

The trustees are the members of the Management Committee. During the year, 15 members (2021, 18) served on the committee. Expenses paid to trustees totalled £16 (2021, £0). No remuneration was paid to any trustee.

VICTORIA CENTRE

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 278215

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

9 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	<u>Balance at</u> <u>1 April 2021</u>	<u>Incoming</u> <u>Resources</u>	<u>Resources</u> <u>Expended</u>	<u>Transfers</u> <u>Between</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>Balance at</u> <u>31 Mar 2022</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated Funds					
Scott Bader Equipment	1,840	5,000	(5,000)	(1,840)	-
	<u>1,840</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>(5,000)</u>	<u>(1,840)</u>	<u>-</u>
General Reserves	129,527	156,299	(189,840)	1,840	97,826
	<u><u>131,367</u></u>	<u><u>161,299</u></u>	<u><u>(194,840)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>97,826</u></u>

10 RESTRICTED FUNDS

Scott Bader WHAGS	252	-	-		252
NNC -ICNA/NCF		14,326	(12,619)		1,707
DEFRA - Daylight Centre	2,087	500	(2,587)		-
Power to Change - CCLORS	4,100	-	(4,100)		-
One Wellingborough Plus	13,420	-	(13,420)		-
CAF Fuel Energy Grant	-	9,970	(9,970)		-
	<u><u>19,859</u></u>	<u><u>24,796</u></u>	<u><u>(42,696)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>1,959</u></u>

11 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>£</u>	<u>Restricted</u> <u>£</u>	<u>2022</u> <u>£</u>	<u>2021</u> <u>£</u>
Tangible Fixed Assets	24,234		24,234	20,453
Current Assets	86,881	1,959	88,840	153,450
Current Liabilities	<u>(13,289)</u>		<u>(13,289)</u>	<u>(22,677)</u>
	<u><u>97,826</u></u>	<u><u>1,959</u></u>	<u><u>99,785</u></u>	<u><u>151,226</u></u>

Signed:



Tony Aslam

Position: Chair of Victoria Centre

Date: 11/11/2022

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S QUALIFIED REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF VICTORIA CENTRE

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 278215

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31st March 2022 which are set out on the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a Chartered Management Accountant.

It is my responsibility to:-

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- follow procedures laid down in the general directions given under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of 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 explanations from the Trustees concerning such matters.

Independent examiner's statement

I am pleased to report on accounts which represent a more 'normal' year for the Centre and for society in general, with only a relatively small legacy effect of Covid-19 lockdowns and restrictions.

On the face of it, the accounts look to be less healthy than for 2021 but it would be misleading to say that. Although total income of £186,095 is significantly down from £400,234 in 2021, this needs some analysis. In 2021, grant income was exceptionally high (£287,435), partly due to the availability of funding for Covid-related projects. In 2021-22, that figure is £41,796. Conversely, income generated through childcare and lettings is £130,876, compared to £70,222 in 2020-21 and donations amounted to £12,258 (2021 £2,433). Direct Covid-related income was also £20,000 less this year.

Regarding expenditure, overheads are £20,120 less than 2021. There was no expenditure on Local projects this year. Total employee costs are £17,009 up on last year, although childcare wages are £11,699 lower. Rates and Utilities, £12,879, are significantly higher than 2021 (£7,115) partly due to Council tax being payable which was waived in the previous two years. Bad debts were reduced almost completely during this year.

The high level of grant income in 2021 more than covered the overheads and contributed towards capital expenditure whereas in 2022 grant income covered only around 17% of total expenditure on overheads and capital and, although self-generated income was encouraging, the Centre spent more than its income, leading to a deficit for the year of £51,441. This is not necessarily worrying, due to the healthy financial position of the Centre at the start of the period. However, it is obviously not sustainable in the long term unless higher levels of grant funding can be secured, which cannot be guaranteed. It is therefore necessary to increase levels of self-generated income to ensure the future of the Centre at current spend levels.

At year end, the Centre had cash reserves of £79,320 (2021 £141,125), of which, £1,959 related to balances to be spent against restricted and designated grants. The funds carried forward of £99,785 are healthy and reassuring in the short-term.

During the year there were changes of managerial, administration and accounting personnel but, with the exception of some minor training requirements, I am happy that the staff, systems and procedures now in place are working well to enable efficient financial recording and reporting. I am, therefore, satisfied that these accounts represent a true and accurate reflection of the Centre's financial position.

A R Business Consultancy Ltd
62 Polwell Lane, Barton Seagrave, Kettering, Northamptonshire, NN15 6UB