

THURROCK PLAY NETWORK

England & Wales · Charity number 296428

Details

Other names PYRAMID RESOURCE CENTRE

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1987-05-07

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Pyramid Resource Centre
Heath Road
Chadwell St. Mary
Grays
RM16 4XH

Phone 01375387738

Email info@thurrockplaynetwork.co.uk

Website www.thurrockplaynetwork.co.uk

Activities

Objects: 3. The Objects The objects of the association shall be:- 1. to encourage the provision of facilities and services for recreation and other leisure time occupation for children and young people resident in Thurrock being facilities and services: (a) of which such children and young people have need by reason of their youth or social and economic circumstances: and (b) which will improve the conditions of life for such children and young people by promoting their physical, mental and spiritual well being. 2. to further or benefit all residents of Thurrock without distinction of age, sex, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions by associating together the said residents and the local authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the residents.

Activities: INDEPENDENT ADVICE, SUPPORT AND RESOURCES FOR PLAY AND RECREATION IN THE COMMUNITY

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Amateur Sport, Environment/conservation/heritage, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** THURROCK
- Thurrock

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£83,630	£77,276	-	-
2024-03-31	£101,005	£76,014	-	-
2023-03-31	£69,314	£53,607	-	-
2022-03-31	£61,119	£57,017	-	-
2021-03-31	£112,098	£87,499	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Aileen Burgess		2022-05-25
Andrew Robert Cole		2022-05-25
David Henderson		2018-07-12
Margaret Henderson		2018-07-12
Pamela Freestone		2023-07-16
Paul Sidney Clive Allchorne		2023-07-16
Peter David Eates		2024-01-15
Sara Jane Muldowney		2024-09-18
Sylvia Deirdre Yates		2013-01-31
Teresa O'Keeffe		2018-07-12

THURROCK PLAY NETWORK

England & Wales - Charity number 296428

Accounts

Thurrock Play Network

Charity Number 296428



Annual report to December 2025 Accounts for April 2024 – March 2025

Charity address:

The Pyramid Resource Centre

Heath Road

Greys

RM16 4XH

01375387738

info@thurrockplaynetwork.co.uk

Accountant

Kim Hooper Chartered accountant

132, Admirals Towers

8 Dowells Street

Greenwich SE10 9GE

Chair's report

Another year flown past, where does time go? Although the pandemic has left lasting scars in many ways, we have had a great year. Our aim was to consolidate all the good things that were going on, supporting the community, continuing to develop great partnerships and establishing clear plans moving forward.

Our Charity objectives had remained unchanged for the last 20+ years and have been updated to be far more inclusive of the whole community. Alongside this our constitution, which was not fit for purpose has been rewritten and both have been approved by the Charity Commission.

It was always a concern that we would be struggling to secure funding, at a time when there is tremendous competition for any funding opportunities. With Council funding having been withdrawn, after years of support, our long-term future was in doubt. With rising costs and outgoings, it was becoming difficult to plan ahead.

After starting the process of submitting an application to the Big Lottery Community Fund in April 2024, we were delighted that we made it through all stages of the process, finally being awarded funding for 5 years, just over £300,000 to cover our revenue costs. In addition, we also received £38,000 capital funding to purchase a new van. We were sorry to see our old van go, but it has a new life with TRUP, The Thurrock Re Use Partnership.



It was important to us that we could continue to build on opportunities to encourage creativity and play opportunities for our families and partners. With tremendous thanks to our volunteers, who have shared their skills, running workshops, both in the Centre and at outside events, we have been able to reach a lot of people. Using donated resources, these opportunities have been affordable for all.

Our forest school run by Lynsey, in her own time, have encouraged children to enjoy nature, enjoying play opportunities and learning new skills. They have been well attended and we could have run more!!

Lucy and Lynsey also run ongoing Saturday morning art workshops, enjoyed by many children, Thank you to both of you for your dedication, time and creativity.



We have always been concerned that there is little to do for young people. The Monday sessions, run by Kent and Lauren, for 12 young people from a nearby SEND school, have been an absolute pleasure to see. They have learnt new skills and in an out of school environment have participated completely, proud of their final products. Thank you to their teachers and carers who have accompanied them.

Our volunteers are absolutely essential to the smooth running of the Centre and help in many different ways, committing their time freely. Tasks vary and may be sorting donations that we receive, cleaning, inputting information, working on the till, helping in the café on a Saturday morning, and much more. This year has seen a drop in the number of volunteers, some through illness, returning to work, moving away from the area, or just moving on. But we do have new volunteers who we welcome with open arms, as well as volunteers who come to us from local companies who offer community days. In 2024, we started a Saturday morning café to support the Park run participants. This has gone from strength and not only has it generated a steady income, but brought new people into the Centre. It is very basic, bacon butties, hot and cold drinks, but plans are on the horizon to expand!!

Our trustees continue to work hard to ensure that the charity runs smoothly. Particular thanks to Peter who has taken on a Health and Safety officer role, ensuring that everything is in place that should be, and to Andy whose spreadsheets are amazing and keep our monitoring and statistics collation on track, not to forget his amazing minutes and attention to detail. Our other trustees are just as valued and their input is invaluable.

And Paul made a wonderful Father Christmas!! An essential part of his trustee role!



Donations and funding

Thank you to Cory Riverside Trust who awarded us £3000 towards our activities. We are pleased to be able to continue working with them. They recently funded a tutor to run an upcycling workshop, which was really successful and helps our reuse agenda.

Thank you to Thurrock Council, not only for £8000 of VSDF funding but for their ongoing support in other ways.

Thank you for all the donations of amazing craft items, in particular, that are used for our workshops, sold on to support exciting projects, including some of the wonderful items that are made by our members to sell at craft fairs and as part of their cottage businesses. Together with the continuing support from local companies, both big and small, our tonnage of items that might otherwise have gone to landfill, has continued to increase, thus meeting our targets and green agenda.

Partnerships

Lauren, our manager, has worked tirelessly to develop partnerships with other groups, sharing resources and skills, for the benefit of the community. We remain a collection point for Love Grace, HARP, a charity in Southend supporting homeless people and the Greyhound Trust.

Our relationship with the Gateway Learning Community continues to benefit our local community.

Last year, Community in Action was set up in Chadwell as a pilot project. Its aim was to pull the community together and empower local residents to make local decisions. We are proud to have been part of that and it has been great to meet local groups and organisations, all working hard to support the community. A new play area, alongside the Centre, that we had worked hard on, with the community and Thurrock Council, to get built, was finally completed and community funding has now paid for new benches and a picnic table.

Staff

We have a group of dedicated staff, who in addition to paid employment volunteer extra time to the Charity. We were sorry to see Fiona retire in December and wish her well in all the planned adventures she has. Fiona started out many years ago as one of our play rangers!!

Manager: Lauren Strutt

Support staff: Faye Smith, Michelle Tucker, Fiona Flint, Kent Lowe

Saturday staff: Peoney Tucker, Will Sullivan

Trustees as of December 2025

Sylvia Yates	Chair
Andy Cole	Secretary
Peter Eates	Health and Safety
Aileen Burgess	Volunteer support
Paul Allchorne	
Dave Henderson	
Margaret Henderson	
Pam Freestone	
Sara Muldowney	
Teresa O’Keeffe	

Change in organisation.

At the last AGM approval was given to consider changing from an Unincorporated Charity to a CIO – a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, which will give greater protection.

With the help of an external consultant, this has now been achieved. With the Charity Commission giving its approval in record time, the new organisation is now set up. A full changeover is being scheduled for the 1st April 2026, with a crossover period to ensure that the current charity is correctly closed down and all assets are moved over to the new CIO.

Financial Position

Our finances are very carefully monitored and clear financial procedures put in place.

We currently have an active bank account for our daily transactions and 2 investment accounts. One of these serves as a reserve account which will cover essential costs should we need to wind down and the other is now set up as a restricted account towards our building project. Both have been making good interest over the last year.

Trustees continually assess the finances and ensure that our cashflow is in a good place. Running costs increased considerably last year, with

government support, following on from Covid, gradually being withdrawn. Wages, utilities and general running overheads increased by 10%.

Despite rising overheads, we hope to be able to minimise any increase in charges e.g. Membership fees, as we are aware that the cost-of-living crisis has had a serious impact on all our residents.

Although we have the security of the lottery funding, we are continually open to other ideas to raise funding, whether in kind or financial contribution to expand activities and support for the community. We are aware that we do not access Gift Aid opportunities and this is high on our priorities for 2026, to generate an additional 25% on donations made by taxpayers, which we can claim from the HMRC.

Risk assessment.

Our finances are steady, but changes in employment legislation will have an impact on us. We have sufficient funding to negate small emergencies and good insurance cover. A contract has been negotiated with a new HR company to give us legal protection and keep us updated with regards to changes in the law.

Trustees as of December 2025

Sylvia Yates	Chair
Andy Cole	Secretary
Peter Eates	Health and Safety
Aileen Burgess	Volunteer support
Paul Allchorne	
Dave Henderson	
Margaret Henderson	
Pam Freestone	
Sara Muldowney	
Teresa O'Keeffe	

Statement of Financial Position

Thurrock Play Network

As of 31 March, 2025

DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Fixed Asset	
Tangible assets	
Office Equipment Cost	0.00
Total for Tangible assets	£0.00
Total for Fixed Asset	£0.00
Cash at bank and in hand	
Cash	0.00
Cash on hand	0.00
CHARITY BANK	12,476.79
COIF	70,434.47
Co-Op Community Direct Plus co-op savings account	61,782.77
	100.00
Nat West Current	0.00
Petty cash	0.00
sundries	0.00
Total for Cash at bank and in hand	£144,794.03
Debtors	
Debtors	1,629.00
Total for Debtors	£1,629.00
Current Assets	
other debtors	0.00
Prepayments	0.00
Stock Asset	4,500.00
Total for Current Assets	£4,500.00
NET CURRENT ASSETS	£150,923.03
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	
Trade Creditors	
Creditors	0.00
Total for Trade Creditors	£0.00
Current Liabilities	
Accruals	12,809.00
bacs	0.03
bacs control	0.00
barclaycard control	245.35
Deferred income	3,000.00
Payroll Liabilities (83)	£0.00
Pension	6.32
Total for Payroll Liabilities (83)	£6.32

Statement of Financial Position

Thurrock Play Network

As of 31 March, 2025

DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Payroll Liabilities	
Employment Allowance	0.02
HMRC	882.08
Other Deductions	0.00
Pension	-6.32
Total for Payroll Liabilities	£875.78
safe control	-359.36
VAT Control	-453.49
VAT Suspense	0.00
Total for Current Liabilities	£16,123.63
Total for Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	£16,123.63
NET CURRENT ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	£134,799.40
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	£134,799.40
TOTAL NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	£134,799.40
Capital and Reserves	
Opening Balance Equity	43,591.40
Unrestricted Funds	84,833.85
Net Income	6,374.15
Total for Capital and Reserves	£134,799.40

Statement of Activity
Thurrock Play Network
1 April, 2024-31 March, 2025

Distribution account	Total
Income	
Bank Interest	3,714.39
cafe	3,284.48
Cory Riverside grant	5,000.00
Craft sales	1,007.80
Donations Misc	4,370.78
event donations	664.52
HIRE	866.75
MEMBERSHIPS	4,228.00
postcode lottery	25,000.00
SCRAP DONATION	26,084.53
Services	1,409.00
VSDF GRANT	8,000.00
Total for income	£83,630.25
Gross Profit	£83,630.25
Expenses	
Advertising/Promotional	262.47
Buildings Insurance	271.63
business rates	364.89
Commercial Waste	897.00
Computer Costs	660.60
Dues and Subscriptions	128.73
Equipment	411.98
furniture and fittings	882.49
gas supply	1,115.46
Health and Safety	576.40
Insurances	2,293.14
Legal and professional fees	11,485.08
maintenance	173.30
mileage	260.10
Misc Expenses	200.00
Office/General Administrative Expenditures	946.26
Card payment costs	244.01
Total for Office/General Administrative Expenditures	£1,190.27
Payroll Expenses	
Pension	531.70
Wages	43,499.24
Total for Payroll Expenses	£44,030.94

Phone Costs	607.81
Printing, Postage and Stationery	89.70
Refreshments	585.36
rent a shelf payment	589.25
Rent or Lease of Buildings	5,000.00
garage rent	623.90
Total for Rent or Lease of Buildings	£5,623.90
Repairs and Renewals	786.57
Supplies	169.19
cafe	406.77
cleaning	124.31
craft	1,313.26
Total for Supplies	£2,013.53
Van Expenses	
fuel	297.51
road tax and breakdown cover	335.00
toll charges	12.50
van insurance	668.87
Van repair and maintenance	123.71
Total for Van Expenses	£1,437.59
Volunteer Expenses	307.91
Total for Volunteer Expenses	£327.91
Total for Expenses	£77,276.10
Net Operating Income	£6,374.15
Net Other Income	
Net Income	£6,374.15

THURROCK PLAY NETWORK

England & Wales - Charity number 296428

Accounts

Thurrock Play Network

Charity number 296428

Annual report to December 2024 Audited accounts to March 2023– 2024



Charity address:

The Pyramid Resource Centre
Heath Road
Grays

RM16 4XH
01375387738
info@thurrockplaynetwork.co.uk

Accountant

Kim Hooper
Chartered accountant
132, Admirals Towers
8 Dowells Street
Greenwich
SE10 9GE

Chair's report

This last year has seen Thurrock Play Network takes significant strides forward in many positive ways, not least in developing strong partnerships within the community and sharing resources.

With the serious impact that the cost-of-living crisis is having on families, businesses and the wider community, we have endeavoured to be able to continue to offer a resource that remains affordable and is accessible to everyone. The advantages that play and other activities can have on mental and physical well-being, has been key in recovering from the pandemic and is instrumental in supporting our charity's objectives and mission statement.

In 23-24, our Local authority grant, which had supported us for many years, was reduced significantly and in 2024 was reduced even further. With many charities struggling to survive, and funding pots becoming more difficult to access, the trustees have monitored the budget carefully and ensured that we remain sustainable, but also looking for other opportunities to move forward. Last march, we welcomed a surprise grant from the Postcode lottery, that was linked in with the Millionaire Street winners nearby, which made up for the shortfall. Thank you!!

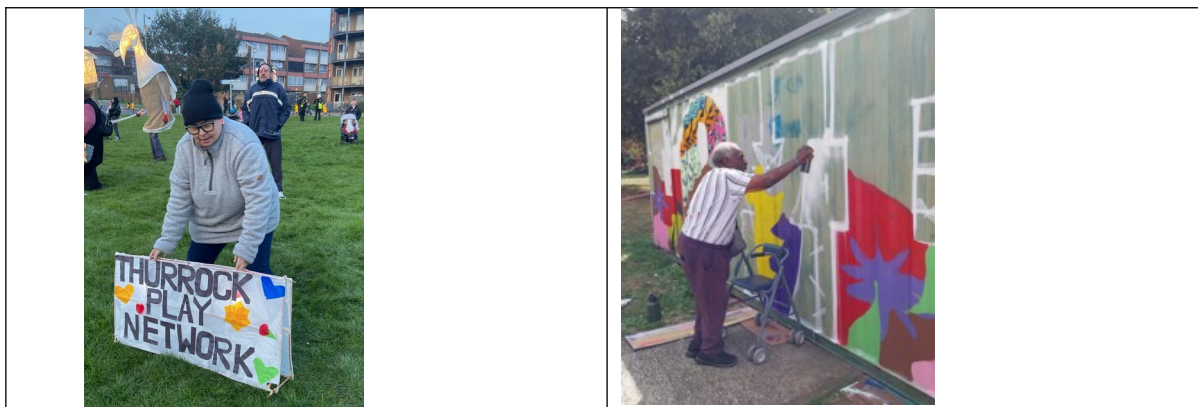
We have seen an increase in our membership and support, from not only Thurrock, but a much wider area, reaching far more children and their families. We estimate that we reach nearly 10k children through schools, organisations and families.

Our volunteers

We are indebted to all the volunteer support that we have. Our volunteers are part of the furniture and carry out various tasks to keep us organised and to enable us to run efficiently. We now have over 26 volunteers on our books, all ready to contribute in whatever way they can. Some commit on a weekly basis, some when required, or when they can. We also value the volunteers who help us with maintenance free of charge and step forward to drive the van when needed. Not to forget the residents, who watered our community garden during the hot summer months, or our neighbours who share some of their lovely Asian cuisine with us.

We welcomed a group of enthusiastic volunteers from Amazon, who helped put up shelving and dug over our garden. Amazon also gave us a welcome cash donation.

We hope that the friendly, welcoming warm environment at the Pyramid Centre provides reciprocal support, as we endeavour to ensure that we are inclusive and value highly our equality and diversity philosophy.



Donations and funding grants

We continue to welcome donations from local businesses and individuals in the community, saving a considerable amount from going to landfill. Our recorded tonnage has increased steadily over the year.

Encouraging an eco-friendly environment is top of our agenda, to reuse 'waste' products in some wonderful creative projects that not only are cost effective, but very rewarding. Besides some of the local businesses, both large and small, providing regular donations, this last couple of years has seen large contributions from film companies which has really expanded what we can offer.



Partnership links

There are too many to mention everyone, but through you we can support the wider community, whether supporting events, donating goods or sharing experience and good advice with us.

We are a drop off point for Love Grace, HARP, and the Greyhound trust. In addition, we support other organisations by providing free craft resources, homeware and whatever we can.

Thank you:

- to Cory Riverside trust who have again supported us with a grant but also by involving us in some of their eco activities.
- IKEA for their weekly contribution
- Start Thurrock for funding some of our activities, including the wonderful street art on our containers and our national playday.
- Get started for providing art resources.
- The Post code lottery
- The local co-op store.
- Essex Community Foundation
- Thurrock Council for their continued support
- CVS for all the advice and support they share with us.
- And many others who we are fortunate to be able to work together with

We are very indebted to Thurrock Council staff who continue to support our charity.

Trustees

Our board of 10 trustees has played an important role in the sustainability of TPN and now covers a range of skills and experience. Finances are monitored closely, staff are supported and our policies and procedures have been updated in line with current legislation, supported by the expertise of our HR advisors. Trustees have taken on roles in line with their experience, backgrounds and interests. Thank you so much for your commitment.

Our Staff

Thank you to our staff, who often give up their time on a voluntary basis, to ensure that everything runs smoothly, always looking for new ideas, contacts and funding, often going over and above.

Events and activities

Since covid, when everything came to a sudden halt, our workshops and activities have exceeded expectation and the number of children and adults has steadily increased. Most are run by volunteers, but some are supported by outside organisations. Our emergency first aid sessions for children, funded by Cory, were particularly successful and well attended. Our forest school sessions including our Halloween event were fully booked in no time. Our children's art workshop is very popular and our varied craft activities are a success. We just need more space!

Following on approval for our kitchen, our Saturday morning café, linked in with Park run is successful, and beside providing drinks and a bacon roll, has also introduced new members. Our rent a shelf was originally set up to encourage our members to sell their wonderful home-made crafts at affordable prices, often made from scrap that had been sought from the Centre. We now have a waiting list.



Constitution and charity status

Following on agreement at the AGM, through a Special Resolution, our 23-year-old constitution has been updated and accepted by the Charity Commission. Our Object, which defines our charity, to encompass the whole community, and ensure that we are now inclusive to all age groups and sectors of the community. has been expanded and received approval,

We are also in the process of moving towards changing our charitable status, from an unincorporated charity to incorporated charitable status, which will give us more protection and security and take the onus away from individuals and belong to the organisation. This again was given approval at the AGM in a special resolution and a consultant is now moving this forward.

Our new objects are:

The objects of the association shall be: -

1. ***to encourage the provision of facilities and services for recreation and other leisure time occupation for children and young people resident in Thurrock being facilities and services:***
 - (a) ***of which such children and young people have need by reason of their youth or social and economic circumstances: and***
 - (b) ***which will improve the conditions of life for such children and young people by promoting their physical, mental and spiritual well-being.***

2. ***to further or benefit all residents of Thurrock without distinction of age, sex, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious, or other opinions by associating together the said residents and the local authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the residents.***

Financial information

Our finances are well regulated and monitored. We have marginally increased our income this year and sought grants to support various activities.

We have a reserve fund which in case of difficulties or having to wind down the organization, will support the process.

We have been able to maintain the existing cost of membership fees, which are still exceptionally low compared with other similar groups throughout the country.

We continue to search for funding opportunities, not only for larger amounts but for accumulative smaller amounts.

The trustees set a projected budget for the year and building in a contingency for any unpredicted expenditure. We are aware that in 2025, many of the subsidies such as rate relief, that we received will end although we should retain the 80% mandatory relief. .

General bills are rising and employment costs increasing.

In 23-24, we managed to have a small underspend which has been carried forward.

We are looking for longer term sustainability opportunities rather than just go hand to mouth each year.

Our van is a necessity and we are currently looking for ways to replace it, as it is not ULEZ compliant, being nearly 20 years old. This will have a significant impact on our finances but is becoming a priority as it is used for deliveries and collections of donations.

Risk assessment

Like any charity, we can only build in contingency funding, but the future is unpredictable, as we have seen.

We are clear about the need to follow a realistic business plan but also to recognize any risks that manifest themselves, whether those tend to be on a short-term basis or over a longer period. Risks can be minimized by careful monitoring and strategies put in place to counteract any possible difficulties, seeking advice and support. Strengthening some of our partnerships is key, and sharing resources is beneficial to everyone. We are always looking at current trends and practices to help us achieve more, especially around local need and well-being.

Trustees as of September 2024

Sylvia Yates	Chair	Margaret Henderson
Andy Cole	Secretary	Pam Freestone
Paul Allchorne		Aileen Burgess
Peter Eates		Sara Muldowney
Dave Henderson		Teresa O'Keeffe

Ngoze Alike - Councillor rep.

Staff

Lauren Strutt - Project co-ordinator
Faye Smith
Fiona Flint
Michelle Tucker
Tony Boughen - Driver / handyman

Thurrock Play Network

Financial Activities

April 2023 - March 2024

	TOTAL	
	APR 2023 - MAR 2024	APR 2022 - MAR 2023 (PP)
Income		
Bank Interest	3,195.06	592.32
Cory Riverside grant	-2,800.00	
CRAFT	4,332.73	450.55
Craft Income	8,730.81	2,503.68
DELIVERY CHARGES	68.00	197.50
Donations and legacies	4,400.00	1,700.00
Donations Misc	2,155.52	661.94
event donations	317.20	981.11
Grant Essex Community Fund	10,000.00	
HIRE	1,275.50	1,320.58
MEMBERSHIPS	4,136.00	4,502.15
SCRAP DONATION	30,551.10	21,414.15
Services	4,248.00	3,362.00
Unrestricted Income	100.00	59.18
vat refund	294.80	
VSDF GRANT	30,000.00	32,000.00
Total Income	£101,004.72	£69,745.16
TOTAL	£101,004.72	£69,745.16
Expenditures		
Advertising/Promotional	184.02	
British Telecom - Telephone		84.90
Buildings Insurance	229.39	203.92
business rates	358.26	847.35
cafe expenses	45.76	
Commercial Waste	794.40	620.60
Computer Costs	535.14	439.32
Computer Equipment	558.31	
DBS	142.00	102.50
Dues and Subscriptions	40.00	55.00
Equipment	1,399.67	1,033.38
Health and Safety	403.42	222.23
HM Revenue & Customs (VAT) Expense	299.70	11.40
Insurances	2,497.62	1,905.05
Legal and professional fees	4,633.84	4,295.82
Misc Expenses	63.35	25.21
Office Shelves	233.33	
Office/General Administrative Expenditures	959.64	1,159.95
Office/General Administrative Expenses		70.05
Other Professional Services	65.00	
Payroll Expenses		
Pension	427.47	227.42
Taxes	-710.67	-26.60

Thurrock Play Network

Financial Activities

April 2023 - March 2024

	TOTAL	
	APR 2023 - MAR 2024	APR 2022 - MAR 2023 (PP)
Wages	50,892.84	28,554.94
Total Payroll Expenses	50,609.64	28,755.76
PC Insurance	9.17	110.04
Phone Costs	521.67	348.81
Printing, Postage and Stationery	181.22	25.02
Raising funds		140.00
Refreshments	267.83	418.72
Rent or Lease of Buildings	5,600.00	5,597.50
Repairs and Renewals	703.40	721.97
Supplies	1,540.36	1,546.80
craft supplies	5.50	28.90
Total Supplies	1,545.86	1,575.70
Travel and Accommodation	32.50	
Uniform		109.31
Utilities	829.44	847.27
Van Expenses	1,538.91	1,706.42
Volunteer Expenses	731.11	129.60
Total Expenditures	£76,013.60	£51,562.80
NET OPERATING INCOME	£24,991.12	£18,182.36
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	£24,991.12	£18,182.36

Thurrock Play Network

Balance Sheet As of March 31, 2024

	TOTAL	
	AS OF MAR 31, 2024	AS OF MAR 31, 2023 (PY)
Fixed Asset		
Tangible assets		
Office Equipment Cost	0.00	0.00
Total Tangible assets	£0.00	£0.00
Total Fixed Asset	£0.00	£0.00
Cash at bank and in hand		
Cash	0.00	0.00
Cash on hand	0.00	215.00
CHARITY BANK	12,086.84	
Co-Op Community Direct Plus co-op savings account	53,554.05	33,690.09
COIF	67,110.03	64,001.81
Nat West Current	1,294.01	12,580.31
Petty cash	33.88	26.83
sundries	0.00	0.00
Total Cash at bank and in hand	£134,178.81	£110,514.04
Debtors		
Debtors	157.00	73.00
Total Debtors	£157.00	£73.00
Current Assets		
other debtors	0.00	0.00
Prepayments	0.00	0.00
Stock Asset	4,500.00	4,500.00
Total Current Assets	£4,500.00	£4,500.00
NET CURRENT ASSETS	£138,835.81	£115,087.04
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Trade Creditors		
Creditors	0.00	0.00
Total Trade Creditors	£0.00	£0.00
Current Liabilities		
Accruals	12,809.00	12,809.00
bacs	0.00	0.00
bacs control	0.00	0.00
barclaycard control	-226.89	0.00
Deferred income	5,000.00	2,200.00
Payroll Liabilities		
HMRC	786.90	2,506.50
Other Deductions	0.00	0.00
Pension	-68.52	-3.96
Total Payroll Liabilities	718.38	2,502.54
safe control	-842.57	0.00
VAT Control	0.00	1,010.78

Thurrock Play Network

Balance Sheet

As of March 31, 2024

	TOTAL	
	AS OF MAR 31, 2024	AS OF MAR 31, 2023 (PY)
VAT Suspense	-129.17	48.78
Total Current Liabilities	£17,328.75	£18,571.10
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	£17,328.75	£18,571.10
NET CURRENT ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	£121,507.06	£96,515.94
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	£121,507.06	£96,515.94
TOTAL NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	£121,507.06	£96,515.94
Charity funds		
Opening Balance Equity	43,591.40	43,591.40
Unrestricted Funds	52,924.54	34,742.18
Surplus/(Deficit)	24,991.12	18,182.36
Total Charity funds	£121,507.06	£96,515.94

THURROCK PLAY NETWORK

England & Wales - Charity number 296428

Accounts

Thurrock Play Network

Charity number 296428

Annual report to December 2023 Audited accounts to March 2022 - 2023

Charity address:

The Pyramid Resource Centre
Heath Road
Grays

RM16 4XH
01375387738
info@thurrockplaynetwork.co.uk

Accountant

Kim Hooper
Chartered accountant
132, Admirals Towers
8 Dowells Street
Greenwich
SE10 9GE

Thurrock Play Network Annual Report 2023



**Pyramid Resource Centre
Heath Road
Grays
RM16 4XH**

01375 387738

info@thurrockplaynetwork.co.uk

website: www.thurrockplaynetwork.co.uk

Charity Number: 296428

Thurrock Play Network

Time flies! Covid and its impact on us seems such a long time ago.

Recovery was initially slow, but the last few months have seen a massive surge forward in terms of what TPN is about and what we want to achieve as a community resource. In terms of our financial position, it has been worrying, as our grant from Thurrock Council, which represents half of our income, was in jeopardy. The fact that we have secured funding for 2023-2024, less 10% from last year, has been down to the persistence and

support from Natalie Smith and Becky Lee, from the Council community engagement team, who argued our business case so successfully. We do know that there will be no core grant available for 24-25.

With the cost-of-living crisis affecting everyone, we have not increased our membership fees, which have remained the same for the previous 3 years. We have seen a significant increase in our membership numbers from individuals, the voluntary and statutory sector, reaching out to over 9,000 children and adults.

The staff and volunteers have worked extremely hard, sometimes juggling large donations with running workshops, supporting external events, serving customers and general house-keeping duties, as well as always planning ahead. Thank you to you all.

Our volunteer base has never been so great, with dedicated volunteers of all ages, giving up so much of their time to help us either on site or working from home. They have a superb range of skills and talents. Without this support, we would not be able to survive. We value all of you. At last count we had 23 active volunteers on our books and others on the side lines, who step in when asked. Their enthusiasm in coming up with new ideas for activities or fund raising is invaluable. Additionally, we have several organisations and businesses that give in kind. Thank you to all of you. You make the place buzz!!!

Our trustees, all volunteers, who oversee the general running of TPN, have used their various skills to ensure that all finances, HR, and overall management is monitored and that TPN remains sustainable. Sadly, one of our longest serving trustees passed away suddenly. Maggie was a founder member and was passionate about play and the local community. She will be sorely missed.

We have supported several external events, either by personal attendance or by providing crafting packs. For the jubilee, in 2022, 600 packs were distributed out, all put together by our volunteers and staff, using scrap materials - plenty of queens and soldiers! With the coronation in 2023, packs, again were distributed. At Gray's Town Park, last year, we provided craft activities and there must have been over 150 children making crowns and easter bunnies. Christmas craft packs were made for the libraries.

There has been a regular timetable of events, from sewing, machine embroidery, candle making, wreath making, crochet to calligraphy, and many more, all run by volunteers and again mostly using donated / scrap materials. It has been great to also be able to run several activities for our children, which have gone down well.

Play is important to all of us and affects us all. With the disastrous affect that the pandemic had on the mental well-being of communities, both

young and old, we hope that we can offer activities and support, which will expediate recovery back to some sort of normality.

Our key project is the scrap-store, which is sourced from donations from individuals and local businesses, which would otherwise find their way to landfill. Some of our quality donations come from further afield, with an amazing 5 big van loads of all sorts from the Lord of the Rings sets. IKEA, of course, continue to support us with regular van loads of donations.

With careful monitoring of the tonnage that we have had donated this year, we are looking at over 26 tonnes over a 9-month period. With the pressure on us, with regards to climate change and saving the planet, we are all doing our bit by reducing the carbon footprint. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle becomes even more essential. Our donations range from a small bag to van loads! We have received several monetary donations, not only from individuals but other organisations. We try to keep our social media current, celebrating any donations and keeping up to date with news. Thank you.

One man's rubbish is another's treasure.

Some great partnerships have been developed over this last year, supporting community activities and other organisations, either with setting up or to those already established, who support specific groups. This has allowed us to extend our support to families and other individuals, who might not know about us or be able to access our resources. Providing activities for Young Carers, during the holidays was a pleasure and to know that some of our donations have ended up in Senegal to support young children out there!

This year's National Play Day theme was 'Play on a shoestring' and our activities were aimed to be run at zero cost. This event was run in conjunction with the Big Lunch, on 2nd August. After 3 years of not being able to celebrate National Play Day in the way that TPN have always done, despite the weather, there was a good turn-out, with several different organisations involved and co-ordinated through CVS and the Community team with a Lower Thames funding grant.

Writing this report is difficult as there are so many people to thank and so much goodwill around, it is difficult to put this on paper, but with current support we are receiving, we can see a very healthy future.

Current staffing:

Lauren Strutt	-	Interim co-ordinator
Tony Boughen	-	Driver - maintenance
Fiona Flint	-	Retail support
Faye Smith	-	Retail support
Michelle Tucker	-	Retail support
Denise Wakeling	-	Admin

Current trustees as of 31st December 2023

Sylvia Yates	Chair
Andrea Bull	Vice Chair
Andy Cole	Secretary
Paul Allchorne	
Aileen Burgess	
Pam Freestone	
Dave Henderson	
Margaret Henderson	
Teresa O'Keeffe	
Sara Muldowney	- Councillor representative

Financial statement

The 22-23 audited accounts are attached.

Thurrock Play Network

Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Notes			2023	2022	
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Total £	
Incoming Resources					
	2	32,000	1000	33,000	34,970
		2,402		2,402	1,533
		2,599		2,599	21,854
		21,322		21,322	0
		198		198	0
		3,362		3,362	0
				0	0
		1,318		1,318	0
		4,520		4,520	0
				0	2,762
		593		593	0
		68,314	1,000	69,314	61,119
Resources expended					
	3	48,103	683	48,786	54,493
			0	0	0
		4,821	0	4,821	2,524
		52,924	683	£53,607	57,017
		15,390	317	15,707	4,102
		0	0	0	0
		84,911	0	84,911	80,809
		£100,301	£317	£100,618	84,911

Thurrock Play Network

Balance Sheet
as at 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets		4	0		0
Current assets					
			4,500		7,146
			73		268
			110,514		92,147
			115,087		99,561
Liabilities - amounts falling due within one year					
			6	14,469	14,650
Net current assets			100,618		84,911

Total assets less current liabilities £100,618 84,911

Funds			
Restricted	7	317	0
Unrestricted	8	100,301	84,911
		£100,618	84,911

Approved by:

S. D. Yates

on:

29.1.2024

the notes on the following pages form part of these accounts

Thurrock Play Network

Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2023

1. Accounting policies

a) Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities (the Charities SORP).

b) Grants

Grants are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) on an accruals basis following the satisfaction of any pre-conditions.

c) Other income

Donations, fundraising and gifts are recognised on a received basis. All other income is recognised in the accounts on an accruals basis. Gifts in kind are valued at their value to the charity. No value is assigned to scrap received

d) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis

e) Capitalisation

Expenditure on refurbishment, furniture, fittings and equipment which exceeds £300 is capitalised

f) Depreciation

Provision for depreciation of fixed assets held for use by the charity is made at Depreciation is provided at annual rates calculated to spread the cost of each asset over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates currently in use are

Furniture and fittings	33% net book value
Equipment	33% net book value
Motor vehicles	33% net book value

g) Taxation

No provision for taxation is included in the accounts as the charity is entitled to exemption from tax afforded by Section 505 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988

h) Cashflow

The charity qualifies as a small company and therefore in accordance with FRS1, no cashflow statement is required

2 Grants Receivable

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	2023	2022
				Total	
Thurrock Council	32,000	0	32,000	31,836	
Thurrock Council - COVID	0	0	0	3,134	
Active Essex	0	1000	1000	0	
Furlough	0	0	0	2,762	
	32,000	1,000	33,000	37,732	

3 Direct Charitable Expenditure

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023		2022	
			Total £	Total £	Total £	Total £
Wages and salaries	30,237	663	30,920	32,092		
Rent and rates	5,847		5,847	5,000		
Premises costs	2,707		2,707	8,966		
Activities costs	9,312		9,312	8,435		
Depreciation		0	0	0		
	48,103	663	48,786	54,493		

4 Fixed Assets

	motor vehicle	furniture & fittings	office equipment	total
cost				
balance at 1 April 2022	12,747	55,334	38,358	106,439
disposals				
additions	0	0	0	0
balance at 31 March 2023	£12,747	£55,334	£38,358	106,439
depreciation				
balance at 1 April 2022	12,747	55,334	38,358	106,439
disposals				
charge for the year		0	0	0
balance at 31 March 2023	£12,747	£55,334	£38,358	106,439
Net book value at 31 March 2023	£0	£0	£0	0
Net book value at 1 April 2022	£0	£0	£0	0

5 Debtors and prepayments

	2023	2022
Sundry debtors	73	268
Prepayments	0	0
	£73	268

6 Creditors and accruals

	2023	2022
HMRC	3,562	3,562
Deferred Income	2,200	2,200
Creditors and Accruals	8,707	8,888
	£14,469	14,650

7 Restricted funds

None of the funds of the charity are restricted.

	balance 1.4.2022	movement in fund		balance 31.3.2023
		incoming resources	expensed transferred	
Active Essex	0	1000	683	317

The purpose of the funds are as follows

Active Essex	Grant to purchase activity equipment
--------------	--------------------------------------

8 Unrestricted funds

The income fund of the charity consists of the following:

	balance 1.4.2022	movement in fund		balance 31.3.2023
		incoming resources	expensed transferred	
Contingency fund	60,000	0	0	60,000
	60,000	0	0	60,000

The Contingency fund is accumulated from management fees and interest and is for contractual responsibilities. In the opinion of the members of the management committee at 31.3.2022 the main contractual liabilities were:

Redundancy	11207
Lease on Pyramid	5000
Running costs	43793

9 Contingencies and Contractual commitments

In the opinion of the Members of the Management Committee at 31.3.2023 there were no contingent liabilities and no contractual commitments (31.3.2022 None)

10 Members of the Management Committee Remuneration and Expenses

None of the members of the Management Committee were remunerated directly or indirectly. There was no reimbursement of expenses (31.3.2022 £nil)

THURROCK PLAY NETWORK

England & Wales - Charity number 296428

Accounts

Thurrock Play Network

Charity number 296428

Annual report to December 2022 Unaudited accounts to March 2021 – 2022

Charity address:

The Pyramid Resource Centre
Heath Road
Grays

RM16 4XH
01375387738
info@thurrockplaynetwork.co.uk

Accountants

Kim Hooper
Chartered accountant
132, Admirals Towers
8 Dowells Street
Greenwich
SE10 9GE

Annual Report

Thurrock Play Network was set up as a charity in 2000.

The charity is managed by a Board of elected trustees and co-opted committee members.

Trustees

Andrea Bull

Aileen Burgess

David Henderson

Margaret Henderson

Teresa O'Keeffe

Maggie Pollock

Andrew Cole - Secretary

Sylvia Yates - Chairperson

Co-opted members

Peter Saunders

Objectives and activities

Thurrock Play Network offers independent advice, support and resources for play and recreation in the community. We support the local community of Thurrock and surrounding area to provide activities and play opportunities for our families, that are affordable and inclusive.

- We encourage creative activities, using scrap materials and reducing the amount that goes to landfill
- We support community events, providing activities that are free to all
- We welcome volunteers to celebrate, support and develop their existing skills or help develop new ones, building their confidence
- We run free activities for children and their families to enjoy
- We encourage local businesses to reduce the amount that they send to landfill and which can be reused in our scrap store
- We support children in providing ideas and materials for their homework projects
- We provide our members, who might be individuals, voluntary or statutory groups with affordable scrap materials to encourage their creativity and reuse.

Achievements and performances

After all the uncertainty around the pandemic and not being able to run our charity as we would like, it has been a very successful year. We have seen an increase in the quantity and quality of donations made to us, both private individual contributions and an increase in the number of companies who make regular donations to us, preventing unwanted goods ending up at landfill. Between July and September, we received over 1.4 tonnes of scrap. This increased in the final quarter of the year to just over 2 tonnes.

Our recovery has been slow, but like the phoenix rising from the ashes, everything is getting back on track. We have gradually been able to build up the number of events / workshops that we have been able to run for the local community. All have been run by volunteers happy to share their amazing skills. Our once-a-month events from a fabric sale, yard sales, toy fair have generated excellent income and we are grateful to staff and volunteers who have worked so hard to make these happen.

Thurrock Play Network now has a merry band of 20 volunteers, working alongside staff, all happy to give up some of their time on a regular basis and ensure that the Centre can run smoothly, arranging events, dealing with social media, either sorting, doing paperwork, making up packs, cleaning – nothing is too much.

Our membership has increased and we are pleased that we have been able to keep our subscription rates at the same level, at a time when many people are being hit by the cost-of-living increase and recycling is even more important in stretching the family budget.

Through networking, we have been able to develop some excellent partnerships, which we hope will enhance the way forward for us at a time when the future of many organisations is in jeopardy.

Whether creative or activity related play, it is wonderful to be able to offer opportunities again and to be able to watch children and families have fun.

We would like to express our thanks to Thurrock Council for continuing our grant for another year, for United Ways for their grant which has enabled us to replace our rather antiquated cutting machine, to The Co-operative stores for their financial support, IKEA for their regular contributions, Sainsburys, Morrisons and many other local businesses, not least our members who continue to support us.

Planning ahead

We have made great inroads into achieving the targets that we set ourselves last year particularly in increasing our volunteer workforce but we have a long way to go to secure the future for TPN.

We need to:

- Work with other organisations to submit joint funding applications
- Set up a funding group to be responsible for identifying possible sources of funding either financial or in kind
- Research ways in which we can increase our income to become more sustainable.
- Improve lines of communication
- Look at outreach activities for hard-to-reach groups
- Develop good support mechanisms for our volunteers to help develop their skills
- Develop further as a key community source, particularly around physical and emotional well-being, encouraging play and creative opportunities

Risk Management

We are dependant on obtaining grants and donations for our survival. With many funding organisations being overwhelmed with applications, this next year is going to be tough. It is becoming more difficult to secure resources for the long term.

Vandalism and anti-social behaviour have both become a serious local issue. The defibrillator machine situated outside our main door has been damaged and has had to be moved to a safer environment. The CCTV camera system, which was installed to protect the defibrillator and the safety of our staff and local community has also been destroyed.

Health and safety are paramount to us although incidents have been reported to the police, we are not aware that any action has been taken.

Ever escalating overheads need to be built into our projected budgets and any possible support identified.

Reserves policy

We continue to hold an amount in account which gives us a year's running costs should our grants cease. This is held in a Charities investment account (COIF) which over the last couple of years has made little interest. This is just beginning to pick up again as interest rates rise.

Financial review

Our financial situation has stabilised slightly with a notable increased income from sales and activities. Heavily subsidised business rates have helped and careful monitoring of expenditure by the trustees has paid off.

The attached accounts do not show a breakdown of activity income, just a summary of activities, which is all the Charities Commission require, but this will be made available to members at the AGM.

Signed S D Yates
Chair

Thurrock Play Network

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2022

		2022		2021	
	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Total £
Incoming Resources					
Grants receivable	2	34,970		34,970	77,530
Donations		1,533		1,533	4,709
Craft sales		21,854		21,854	1,359
Scrap donations		0		0	4,116
Deliveries		0		0	4
Services				0	0
Activities				0	722
Hire fees		0		0	473
Membership		0		0	1,144
Coronavirus JRS			2,762	2,762	22,001
Bank deposit interest		0		0	40
total incoming resources		58,357	2,762	61,119	112,098
Resources expended					
Direct charitable expenditure	3	51,731	2,762	54,493	85,926
Other expenditure:					
Fundraising and publicity			0	0	73
Management and administrative		2,524	0	2,524	1,500
total resources expended		54,255	2,762	£57,017	£87,499
Net movement in resources		4,102	0	4,102	24,599
Transfers between funds		0	0	0	0
Total funds brought forward		80,809	0	80,809	56,210
Total funds carried forward		£84,911	£0	£84,911	£80,809

Thurrock Play Network

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2022

	Notes	2022	2021
		£	£
Fixed assets	4	0	0
Current assets			
Stock		7,146	7,145
Debtors and prepayments	5	268	2,381
Bank and cash balances		92,147	83,917
		99,561	93,443
Liabilities - amounts falling due within one year			
Creditors and accruals	6	14,650	12,634
Net current assets		84,911	80,809
Total assets less current liabilities		£84,911	80,809
Funds			
Restricted	7	0	-8,302
Unrestricted	8	84,911	81,927
		£84,911	80,809

Approved by:

S. D. Yates

on:

30-1-23

the notes on the following pages form part of these accounts

Thurrock Play Network

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022

1. Accounting policies

a) Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities (the Charities SORP).

b) Grants

Grants are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities (SFA) on an accruals basis following the satisfaction of any pre-conditions.

c) Other income

Donations, fundraising and gifts are recognised on a received basis.

All other income is recognised in the accounts on an accruals basis.

Gifts in kind are valued at their value to the charity. No value is assigned to scrap received

d) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis

e) Capitalisation

Expenditure on refurbishment, furniture, fittings and equipment which exceeds £300 is capitalised

f) Depreciation

Provision for depreciation of fixed assets held for use by the charity is made at

Depreciation is provided at annual rates calculated to spread the cost of each asset over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates currently in use are:

Furniture and fittings	33% net book value
Equipment	33% net book value
Motor vehicles	33% net book value

g) Taxation

No provision for taxation is included in the accounts as the charity is entitled to exemption from tax afforded by Section 505 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988

h) Cashflow

The charity qualifies as a small company and therefore in accordance with FRS1, no cashflow statement is required

2 Grants Receivable

			2022	2021
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
Thurrock Council	31,836	0	31,836	31,812
Thurrock Council - COVID	3,134		3,134	10,000
Thurrock Council - Containers			0	20,140
Local Restrictions Support Grant	0		0	1,334
VSDF Small grant	0		0	2,500
Furlough	0	2,762	2,762	0
Business Rates Grant		0	0	8,764
Grant Essex Community Fund	0	0	0	2,980
	34,970	2,762	37,732	77,530

3 Direct Charitable Expenditure

			2021	2020
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
			£	£
Wages and salaries	29,330	2762	32,092	43,902
Rent and rates	5,000		5,000	5,000
Premises costs	8966		8,966	1,062
Activities costs	8,435		8,435	35,962
Depreciation		0	0	0
	51,731	2,762	54,493	85,926

4 Fixed Assets

	motor vehicle	furniture & fittings	office equipment	total
cost				

balance at 1 April 2021	12,747	55,334	38,358	38,358
disposals				
additions	0	0	0	0
balance at 31 March 2022	£12,747	£55,334	£38,358	£106,939
depreciation				
balance at 1 April 2021	12,747	55,334	38,358	38,358
disposals				
charge for the year		0	0	0
balance at 31 March 2022	£12,747	£55,334	£38,358	106,439
Net book value at 31 March 2022	£0	£0	£0	0
Net book value at 1 April 2021	£0	£0	£0	0

5 Debtors and prepayments		2022	2021
Sundry debtors		268	2,381
Prepayments		0	0
		£268	£2,381

6 Creditors and accruals		2022	2021
HMRC		3,562	3,046
Deferred Income		2,200	2,200
Creditors and Accruals		8,888	7,388
		£14,650	£12,634

7 Restricted funds

None of the funds of the charity are restricted.

	balance 1.4.2021	movement in fund incoming resources	expensed transferre d	balance 31.3.2022
Grant Essex Community Fund	-270	0	-270	0
CEDF funding	-3,460		-3,460	0
Business Rates	0	0	0	0
	-3,730	0	-3,730	0

The purpose of the funds are as follows

Essex Community Fund	Grant to develop the website
CEDF funding	Repair of Container rooves and Improving accessibility to

8 Unrestricted funds

The income fund of the charity consists of the following:

	balance 1.4.2021	movement in fund		balance 31.3.2022
		incoming resources	expensed transferred	
Contingency fund	60,000	0		60,000
	60,000	0	0	60,000

The Contingency fund is accumulated from management fees and interest and is for contractual responsibilities. In the opinion of the members of the management committee at 31.3.2022 the main contractual liabilities were:

Redundancy	8682
Lease on Pyramid	5000
Running costs	47000
Total	60682

9 Contingencies and Contractual commitments

In the opinion of the Members of the Management Committee at 31.3.2022 there were no contingent liabilities and no contractual commitments (31.3.2021 None)

10 Members of the Management Committee Remuneration and Expenses

None of the members of the Management Committee were remunerated directly or indirectly. There was no reimbursement of expenses (31.3.2021 £nil)

THURROCK PLAY NETWORK

England & Wales - Charity number 296428

Accounts

Thurrock Play Network

Charity Number: 296428

Annual report 2021 and unaudited accounts for the
year ending March 31st 2021

Charity Address:

The Pyramid Resource Centre and Scrapstore
Heath Road
Grays
RM16 4XH

Accountants:

Kim Hooper
Chartered Accountant
132, Admirals Towers
8 Dowells Street
Greenwich
SE10 9GE

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Trustees' Annual Report	3
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Annual report

Thurrock Play Network was set up as an unincorporated Charity in 2000.

It is managed by a Board of trustees and other management members.

Current trustees

Andrea Bull
Dave Henderson
Margaret Henderson
Teresa O’Keeffe
Maggie Pollock
Peter Saunders
Debbie Walker
Roy Williams
Sylvia Yates

Additional committee members

Sara Muldowney
Aileen Burgess

Objectives and activities

Thurrock Play Network offers independent advice, support and resources for play and recreation in the community.

We support the local community of Thurrock and surrounding area to provide activities and play opportunities for our families, that are affordable and inclusive.

- We encourage creative activities, using scrap materials and reducing the amount that goes to landfill
- We support community events, providing activities that are free to all
- We welcome volunteers to celebrate, support and develop their existing skills or help develop new ones, building their confidence
- We run free activities for children and their families to enjoy
- We encourage local businesses to reduce the amount that they send to landfill and which can be reused in our scrapstore
- We support children in providing ideas and materials for their homework projects
- We provide our members, who might be individuals, voluntary or statutory groups with affordable scrap materials to encourage their creativity and reuse.

Following on a major refurbishment of our centre, we had to close a month after reopening due to the pandemic. Planned events had to be cancelled and our scrapstore closed. We were unable to plan far ahead as no sooner had we got back on track there were further lockdowns.

Achievements and performance

Despite the pandemic, following government guidelines, we ensured that our centre met all guidelines to enable us to open on a restricted basis. Our membership has picked up slowly but has recently seen an increase as people gain confidence in going out again. Staff and volunteers have worked hard to ensure that our environment is safe and that we can get back to normal. There has been an increase in donations both from individuals and businesses, which has provided a much greater variety in what we have to offer.

We have been able to run some activities for young children and recently ran a series of creative workshops for some of our members, which were well attended. In addition, we have attended some local community events, providing activities and allowing us to market our organisation.

With funding from the Essex Community Foundation, we were able to have a new website developed, which has made all the difference to us and has reached a much wider audience. We estimate that through our membership, we access over 8000 children in Thurrock, through school and group memberships and individuals.

We are grateful to local businesses and organisations who support us, including IKEA, Morrisons, Cory Riverside Trust and the Coop, as well as many others, who donate to and support our organisation.

Our thanks to all our volunteers without whose help we would struggle. We appreciate your time and commitment.

Planning ahead

- Our current core funding from Thurrock Council come to an end in April and we are waiting to see if we will have their continued support for another year.
- We need to research and look for other funding opportunities that will allow us to be sustainable
- Increasing our volunteer base and ensure that the right training and support is put in place.
- We are looking at other ways to generate income by increasing the number of workshops, hiring out space at an affordable rate to support local community activities
- Planning out events and workshops which encourage the local community to develop their skills and confidence
- Link with other organisations to maximise our potential
- Develop a clear marketing strategy widening our activities to more users
- Developing our scrap bags of affordable resources
- Most importantly get back on track with our plans from nearly 2 years ago, when we first went into lockdown of becoming an invaluable community resource.

Risk management

The trustees and management committee are very aware of the risks that we face as an organisation and that we need to put strategic business plans in place to ensure our future security.

All our policies have been recently updated to meet current legislation to protect staff, volunteers and users. Health and safety policy is paramount and is strictly implemented to ensure the safety of everyone. Policies and procedures are updated as necessary.

Reserves policy

Our reserves policy requires that we have £60k put on one side, as unrestricted funds to allow us to maintain our operating costs for a 9 month period, including redundancy costs, in line with government statutory guidelines and contracts.

Financial review

Our accounts show a healthy increase from last year. The previous 3 years had shown a £7k shortfall for each year, which could not be sustained. Despite a fall in income from the usual sources, we were able to retain our core grant and with furlough support, local restrictions grants and no rates due for the year, we have strengthened our financial position, which will be of significant support should our core funding not be renewed.

Signed

S D Yates

Thurrock Play Network
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Incoming Resources					
Grants receivable	2	54,410	23,120	77,530	81,889
Donations		4,709		4,709	110
Craft sales		1,359		1,359	4,032
Scrap donations		4,116		4,116	15,290
Deliveries		4		4	299
Services				0	1,800
Activities			722	722	4,490
Hire fees		473		473	558
Membership		1,144		1,144	3,550
Coronavirus JRS		22,001		22,001	
Bank deposit interest		40		40	286
total incoming resources		88,256	23,842	112,098	112,303
Resources expended					
Direct charitable expenditure	3	57,308	28,618	85,926	124,732
Other expenditure:					
Fundraising and publicity			73	73	0
Management and administration		1,500	0	1,500	1,500
total resources expended		58,808	28,691	£87,499	£126,232
Net movement in resources		29,448	(4,849)	24,599	(13,929)
Transfers between funds		(4,849)	4,849	0	0
Total funds brought forward		56,211	0	56,211	70,140
Total funds carried forward		£80,809	£0	£80,809	£56,211

Thurrock Play Network

Balance Sheet
as at 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets	4	0	0
Current assets			
Stock		7,145	9,528
Debtors and prepayments	5	2,381	1,250
Bank and cash balances		83,917	58,173
		93,443	68,950

Liabilities - amounts falling due within one year

Creditors and accruals	6	12,634	12,739
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Net current assets		80,809	56,211
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Total assets less current liabilities		£80,809	56,211
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0

Funds

Restricted	7	0	0
Unrestricted	8	80,809	56,211
		£80,809	56,211

Approved by:

on:

the notes on the following pages form part of these accounts

Thurrock Play Network

**Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2021**

1. Accounting policies

a) Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities (the Charities SORP[®]).

b) Grants

Grants are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) on an accruals basis following the satisfaction of any pre-conditions.

c) Other income

Donations, fundraising and gifts are recognised on a received basis.
All other income is recognised in the accounts on an accruals basis.
Gifts in kind are valued at their value to the charity. No value is assigned to scrap received

d) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis

e) Capitalisation

Expenditure on refurbishment, furniture, fittings and equipment which exceeds £300 is capitalised

f) Depreciation

Provision for depreciation of fixed assets held for use by the charity is made at
Depreciation is provided at annual rates calculated to spread the cost of each asset over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates currently in use are:

Furniture and fittings	33% net book value
Equipment	33% net book value
Motor vehicles	33% net book value

g) Taxation

No provision for taxation is included in the accounts as the charity is entitled to exemption from tax afforded by Section 505 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988

h) Cashflow

The charity qualifies as a small company and therefore in accordance with FRS1, no cashflow statement is required

2 Grants Receivable

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021 Total	2020 Total
Thurrock Council	31,812	0	31,812	30,000
Thurrock Council - COVID	10,000		10,000	
Thurrock Council - Containers		20,140	20,140	
Local Restrictions Support Grant	10,098		10,098	
VSDF Small grant	2,500		2,500	
Capital redevelopment	0	0	0	50,889
Active Thurrock	0	0	0	1,000
Grant - Riverside Resource	0	0	0	0
Grant Essex Community Fund	0	2,980	2,980	
	54,410	23,120	77,530	81,889

3 Direct Charitable Expenditure

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021 Total	2020 Total
			£	£
Wages and salaries	43,093		43,903	48,006
Rent and rates		5,000	5,000	6,085
Premises costs		1,062	1,062	3,854
Activities costs	14,215	22,556	36,771	66,786
Depreciation		0	0	0
	57,308	28,618	86,736	124,732

4 Fixed Assets

	motor vehicle	furniture & fittings	office equipment	total
cost				
balance at 1 April 2020	12,747	55,334	38,358	38,358
disposals				#REF!
additions	0	0	0	0
balance at 31 March 2021	£12,747	£55,334	£38,358	£106,939
depreciation				
balance at 1 April 2020	12,747	55,334	38,358	38,358
disposals			0	0
charge for the year	0	0	0	0
balance at 31 March 2021	£12,747	£55,334	£38,358	106,439
Net book value at 31 March 2021	£0	£0	£0	0
Net book value at 1 April 2020	£0	£0	£0	0

5 Debtors and prepayments

	2021	2020
Sundry debtors	2,381	0
Prepayments	0	1,250
	£2,381	£1,250

6 Creditors and accruals

2021	2020
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HMRC		1,152	2,104
Deferred Income		2,200	0
Creditors and Accruals		9,282	10,635
		£12,634	£12,739

7 Restricted funds

None of the funds of the charity are restricted.

	balance 1.4.2020	movement in fund		balance 31.3.2021
		incoming resources	expensed transferred	
Grant Essex Community Fund	0	2,980	3,250	(270)
CEDF funding	0	20,140	23,600	(3,460)
	0	23,120	26,850	(3,730)

The purpose of the funds are as follows

Essex Community Fund	Grant to develop the website
CEDF funding	Repair of Container rooves and Improving accessibility to building

8 Unrestricted funds

The income fund of the charity consists of the following:

	balance 1.4.2020	movement in fund		balance 31.3.2021
		incoming resources	expensed transferred	
Contingency fund	40,000	20,000		0
	40,000	20,000	0	60,000

The Contingency fund is accumulated from management fees and interest and is for contractual responsibilities. In the opinion of the members of the management committee at 31.3.2021 the main contractual liabilities were:

Redundancy	6652
Lease on Pyramid	5000
Running costs	45000
	- 56652

9 Contingencies and Contractual commitments

In the opinion of the Members of the Management Committee at 31.3.2021 there were no contingent liabilities and no contractual commitments (31.3.2020 None)

10 Members of the Management Committee Remuneration and Expenses

None of the members of the Management Committee were remunerated directly or indirectly. There was no reimbursement of expenses (31.3.2020 £nil)

