



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Abbots Langley Community Centre

On accounts for the year
ended

31st.March 2024

Charity no
(if any)

302321

Set out on pages

1, 2, 3

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2024

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

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

Signed:

Date:

16-12-24

Name:

Michael Thomas Morton

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

Chartered Accountant, FCA.
Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Address:

"Strathmore" The Nap

Kings Langley

Hertfordshire, WD4 8ES

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

Abbots Langley Community Centre

Management Accounts

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Registered Charity No 302321

Abbots Langley Community Centre

Management Accounts for the Year ended 31 March 2024

Summary	2024	2023
	£	£
Receipts for the Year	27,443.05	23,548
payments for the Year	<u>29,161.31</u>	<u>25,186</u>
Net (Payments)/Receipts for the Year	-1,718.26	-1,638
Bank Balances as at 1st April 2023	31,949.32	33,587
Bank Balances as at 31 March 2024	<u><u>30,231.06</u></u>	<u><u>31,949</u></u>

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 March 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank Account Balances		
Current Account	9,759.39	21,627
Deposit Account	<u>20,471.67</u>	<u>10,322</u>
	<u><u>30,231.06</u></u>	<u><u>31,949</u></u>
Other Assets		
Hire fees owing	<u>2,162.86</u>	<u>2,906</u>
Liabilities		
party deposits held	907.50	549
Calver Cleaning Co	1,061.00	0
E-on Electricity	<u>0.00</u>	<u>2318</u>
	<u><u>1,968.50</u></u>	<u><u>2,867</u></u>

Abbots Langley Community Centre

Management Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

Receipts and Payments Account

Receipts

Proceeds, Grants and Donations	2024	2023
	£	£
Carnival	153.36	78
Autumn Fest	233.00	135
		<u>213</u>
Trading Activities		
Hire of Community Centre	26,906.84	23,762
Less Refunds	-224.00	-447
Investment Income		
Bank Interest	149.85	20
	<u>26,832.69</u>	
Total Receipts	<u><u>27,219.05</u></u>	<u><u>23,548</u></u>

Payments

Direct Charitable Expenditure		
Water Charges	1,222.30	1,336
Non-Domestic Rates	212.48	425
Repairs and Maintenance	6,373.34	5,378
Waste Disposal	1,327.53	1,420
Light and Heat	6,935.92	3,628
Insurance	2,553.78	2,308
Cleaning and Caretaking	7,533.60	7,812
	<u>26,158.95</u>	<u>22,307</u>
Other Expenditure		
Gifts	33.00	170
Telephone, Postage, Printing	1,661.88	1,675
Website Cost & Advertising	658.46	886
PRS Licence	<u>425.02</u>	<u>148</u>
	<u>2,778.36</u>	<u>2,879</u>
Total Payments	<u><u>28,937.31</u></u>	<u><u>25,186</u></u>

Fees Owning 31 March 2024

		£	Date paid
A L orchestra	Jan- March	551.50	
ALYG	March	144.39	
Annie Farr Academy	March	70.00	Apl
Boxercise	March	57.97	
Celtic Hearts Irish Dancers	Jan-Feb	175.00	April
	March	140.00	
Creative Dance	March	52.50	
Evergreens	Feb-	108.75	
	March	145.00	
parent and toddlers	March	217.50	
TKD	March	516.25	
Slimming World - Overpayment		-16.00	
Total		2,162.85	

Deposits held 31 March 2024

Date Dep taken	Ref	£	Party date
08/02/2024	E Reese	100.00	14 Apl 2024
08/02/2024	K L Community	100.00	23 June 2024
23/02/2024	One World Animals	212.50	31 May 2024
29/02/2024	A L Gardening Soc	370.00	13/14 Sept 2024
13/03/2024	S Greenidge	125.00	4 Apl 2024
Total		907.50	

Trade Creditor 31 March 2024

	£
Calver for March 2024	1,061.00

ABBOTS LANGLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE

Report of the Management Committee for the year ended 31 March 2024

Bookings The Centre has been well supported by its regular users during the year but the level of weekend party bookings is still below pre-pandemic levels.

There have been the usual bookings from local community organisations: the Tough Ten Race Day in October, the Gardening Society's autumn show and concerts from Abbots Langley Orchestra. The year closed with bookings in prospect for concerts from the Orchestra and the Watford Accordion Band at the Abbots Langley Festival in the summer.

The Blood Transfusion and Transplant Service has continued to make regular bookings. One World Animals held an all-day event at the Centre in August. The Centre was also used as a stop-off point for a charity cycle race in April.

The Committee has considered whether Saturday evening parties might be feasible to generate extra income but decided not to pursue this. The Parish Council confirmed that an alcohol licence could not be granted to the Centre.

Finances Following a review of hire charges the fees for all user groups were increased from 1 September 2023. The main factors underlying this decision were the steep increases in electricity prices (foreshadowed last year); the immediate need for substantial electrical and plumbing work (carried out this year at a cost of £4,371); and the continuing need to restore our reserve fund to cover possible loss of income from any future pandemic and to keep the building in good repair now that it was showing its age.

Notwithstanding this increase the Centre has recorded an excess of expenditure over income of £2,254. Compared with the previous year income from hire rose from £23,315 to £26,683 but expenditure rose from £25,186 to £28,937. (These figures are subject to audit.)

Cleaning and maintenance Our cleaners (Callver Cleaning) provide a dedicated cleaner who cleans the Centre three times a week; she also provides caretaking for weekend parties. The arrangement continues to work very well; floor-cleaning is now much improved after the repairs last year to the floor-washing machine. Callver have continued to provide gutter cleaning and sanitary cleaning.

The above-mentioned electrical and plumbing work - the five-yearly electrical wiring review (with consequent remedial work) and the updating of the water heating systems - were carried out during the year.

Because of other commitments Andy Hodge was unable to continue as our maintenance manager and stood down at the AGM in July 2023. In the absence to date of anyone willing to join the Committee in this capacity we are using an external maintenance manager to keep an eye on the building and carry out routine repairs and improvements. These have included the installation of solar lighting panels above the outside notice boards.

Events and Publicity We ran a tombola and lucky dip stall at both the main village events: the Carnival in June 2023 and the AutumnFest in September 2023. However we did not repeat the "Prince and Princess" competition at the Carnival as it was becoming increasingly difficult to generate enough interest when set against the effort required. These events generated useful publicity and fundraising for the Centre, including a visit to the Carnival stall from the local MP, Dean Russell, who subsequently visited the Centre to see more of what we did and if he could help us.

These and other events have highlighted that many people in the locality were unaware of the Centre, due partly to its location. We are therefore looking into the possibility of improving signage to the Centre.

Abbots Langley Youth Project Agreement was reached in March 2024 with Three Rivers DC to transfer the remaining funds in the Project's bank account to them to pay the Project's hire charges and to fund its activities. The bank account has been closed and the Centre now has no responsibility for organising the Project.

Management Committee At the Annual General Meeting in July 2023 Andy Hodge stood down as maintenance manager and Ruth Clark and Elinor Gazzard were confirmed as the Parish Council representatives. During the year Eryl McNally was co-opted on to the Committee .

Finally, I would like to thank everyone on the Committee and in the user groups for all their hard work in keeping the Centre running smoothly..

Richard Kennell
Chair
11 July 2024