

**Ardstraw Community Playgroup
(Company limited by guarantee)**

**Trustees' report
for the year ended 31 August 2024**

The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2024.

Trustees

The management committee of the company, known as directors for the purpose of company law and trustees for the purposes of charity law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 1.

Charitable objects

The company was established to enhance the development and education of young children by encouraging parents/guardians to understand and provide for the needs of their children. The playgroup provides high quality care and education for children under the statutory school age. The direct benefits which flow from this purpose include an enhanced learning capacity which addresses social, emotional, physical & educational needs of the child. These benefits can be demonstrated by feedback from parents/guardians, external assessments, educational assessments & statistics.

In addition, the company aims to offer appropriate play facilities, with the right of parents/carers to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activities of the Company, ensuring that the Company offers opportunities for all children, regardless of religion, culture, race or means. The group raises awareness of age-appropriate play-based learning among parents & guardians. The playgroup also encouraged parents/guardians to become involved in the playgroup through fundraising or training. The direct benefits which flow from this purpose include bringing parents together on the committee and provide training to enhance the skills of parents to provide appropriate play and support for their children. These benefits can be demonstrated by feedback from parents.

The company also aims to encourage the study of the needs of such children and their families and promote public interest and recognition of the needs of such children and their families in the local area. The direct benefits which flow from this purpose include representation from the Playgroup being involved in the local Community Association to raise awareness of and recognition for the needs of children and their families in the local area. These benefits can be demonstrated by the Community Association hosting fun days, summer scheme and youth club. The beneficiaries are children and their families living in the local Ardstraw village and surrounding area. There is no harm flowing from this purpose.

The group is a registered charity with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland since 12 August 2015 under registration number 101881.

Organisational structure

The trustees meet regularly, administer the charitable company and make all policy decision. In accordance with the Articles of Association, any director so appointed shall hold office only until the next Annual General Meeting and shall then be eligible for re-election.

Review of activities and achievements

During the year the charitable company continued its work providing high quality care and education for children under the statutory school age. The Statement of Financial Activities on page 6 sets out the results for the year.

Grants

The charitable company was successful during the year being awarded various grants from the Department for Agriculture and Rural Affairs, Early Years Pathway Fund and the Education Authority. These grants allowed the charitable company to update its resources and play equipment as well as contribute to operational costs.

Going Concern

Due to the level of reserves within the charitable company and with funding secured from the Pathway fund until 31 March 2025, the Trustees are satisfied that it is appropriate for the financial statements to be prepared on the going concern basis.

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Reserves

The results for the year are set on page 6. The purposes of the funds are outlined in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment powers, policy and performance

Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the charitable company has the power to make any investment which the directors see fit.

Volunteers

The charitable company is grateful for the unstinting efforts of its directors and other volunteers who have continually supported the activities and management of the charitable company throughout the year. As indicated in note 7 to the financial statements, the directors were not in receipt of any remuneration nor reimbursement of expenses in respect of their services during the year.

Taxation

The charitable company is accepted as a charity by HM Revenue & Customs under reference XR56374 and therefore is exempt from corporation tax.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law and charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law, the trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice' (FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'). Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the surplus or deficit for that year.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:-

- > Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- > Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- > State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to and departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- > Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

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

Special provisions relating to small companies

This report has been prepared in accordance with Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (FRS 102) and in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small entities.

Statement of disclosure of information to independent examiner

So far as each of the trustees in office at the date of approval of these financial statements are aware:

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

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This report was approved by the trustees on 8/10/24 and signed on its behalf by:

Signature:

A. Moore

Louise Crumley

Print Name:

A. Moore

Louise Crumley

Trustee

Trustee