

Monkstown Village Initiatives

Northern Ireland · Charity number 102393

Details

Known as MVI

Status Received

Registered 2015-06-01

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

Contact

Address Monkstown Village Initiatives
18 Monkstown Village Centre
Newtownabbey
County Antrim
BT37 0hs
BT37 0HS

Phone 02890860090

Email info@monkstownvillagecentre.com

Website monkstownvillageinitiatives.com

Activities

Purposes: The objects of the Company are for the relief of suffering and distress, the advancement of education and the protection of health; and in particular to provide for the public, in the Monkstown Area and its environs of Newtownabbey, care facilities in the interest of social welfare, recreation, spiritual development and leisure-time occupation for people who by reason of their social and economic circumstances have need for such facilities.

What the charity does: The prevention or relief of poverty, The advancement of education, The advancement of religion, The advancement of health or the saving of lives, The advancement of citizenship or community development, The relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage

How the charity works: Accommodation/housing, Advice/advocacy/information, Community development, Community enterprise, Counselling/support, Education/training, General charitable purposes, Relief of poverty, Religious activities, Volunteer development, Welfare/benevolent, Youth development

Who the charity helps: Addictions (drug/solvent/alcohol abuse), Adult training, Children (5-13 year olds), General public, Men, Mental health, Older people, Voluntary and community sector, Volunteers, Women, Youth (14-25 year olds)

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£157,760	£147,891	£0	8

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Alan R Taylor		
Jill Harkness		
Laura Whyte		
Nigel Beattie		
Peter Morrow		
Stephen Acheson		
Susan Hamilton		

Monkstown Village Initiatives

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102393

Accounts

MONKSTOWN VILLAGE INITIATIVES LIMITED

Independent Examiner's Report

To the charity trustees of Monkstown Village Initiatives Limited

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2025, which are set out on pages 17 to 28.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

The charity trustees, who are also the directors of Monkstown Village Initiatives for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under part 16 of the Companies Act 2006, and is eligible for an independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

1. examine the accounts under section 65 of the 2008 Act;
2. follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act; and
3. 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 for Northern Ireland. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the financial statements present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

Independent Examiner's statement

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

- (a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - (i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - (ii) to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities;have not been met; or
- (b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Signed _____



Date 15/10/2025

Tony Clarke FCPA
53 Andersonstown Road
Belfast
BT11 9AG

Statement of Financial Activities

including an Income & Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31st March 2025

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2025	Restricted Funds 2025	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
Income					
Donations and Legacies	3	1,110	7,665	8,765	6,269
Income from Charitable Activities	3	44,574	104,421	148,995	120,818
		-----	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL		45,674	112,086	157,760	127,087
Expenditure					
Charitable Activities	4	39,054	108,837	147,891	130,764
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Expenditure		39,054	108,837	147,891	130,764
		-----	-----	-----	-----
NET Incoming / Expenditure for the year before transfers		6,620	3,249	9,869	(3,677)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		6,620	3,249	9,869	(3,677)
Reconciliation of funds					
Fund Balances Brought Forward	5	41,247	(546)	40,701	44,378
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Fund Balances Carried Forward	5	47,867	2,703	50,570	40,701
		-----	-----	-----	-----

Monkstown Village Initiatives Company Number: N.I. 063696

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2025

	Notes	2025	2024
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Fixed Assets	2	-	-
CURRENT ASSETS			
Bank Balance		48,390	41,991
Debtors		<u>3,540</u>	<u>555</u>
		51,930	42,546
CREDITORS: Amounts due in less than one year			
Creditors and Accruals		<u>(1360)</u>	<u>(1832)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>50,570</u>	<u>40,701</u>
NET ASSETS		<u><u>50,570</u></u>	<u><u>40,701</u></u>
REPRESENTED BY:			
Accumulated Fund - Restricted	5	2,703	(546)
Accumulated Fund - Unrestricted	5	47,867	41,247
		<u>50,570</u>	<u>40,701</u>

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31st March 2025.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 11th September 2025

Nigel Beattie
 Nigel Beattie Director (Treasurer)
 Company Registration Number: NI063696

The notes on the pages following (19 to 27), form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1st January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Monkstown Village Initiatives meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees are of the opinion that the charity is a going concern due to the level of reserves in place. The trustees have considered this in the knowledge that on the 30th January, the World Health Organisation (WHO) announced Coronavirus as a global health emergency and on the 11th March 2020, it announced that Coronavirus was a global pandemic.

c) Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of restricted funds is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Restricted funds may only be transferred to general or designated funds once the criteria for restriction have been discharged or no longer apply.

d) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the rent, funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. Income is deferred only when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to use it in the period.

e) Donated services and facilities

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of supporters is not recognised.

f) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2025 (continued)

Expenditure is classified under the following activity heading:

- Expenditure on charitable activities comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

g) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following basis:

Office Equipment	20% straight line
Furniture & Fittings	20% straight line

h) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term current accounts.

i) Value added tax

Value added tax is not recoverable by the charity, and as such is included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

j) Taxation

The company is a registered charity and the charitable tax exemptions are therefore being claimed to the extent that income and/or gains are applicable and applied to charitable purposes only. These exemptions will remain in place as long as income and expenditure is applied to charitable purposes only.

Critical Accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about carrying the amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both the current and future periods.

2. FIXED ASSETS - None

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2025 (continued)

3 INCOME	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
<i>Donations and Legacies</i>					
Donations	3.1	1,100	7,665	8,765	6,269
		-----	-----	-----	-----
		1,100	7,665	8,765	6,269
<i>Charitable Activities</i>					
Monkstown Community Forum Salaries etc.	3.2	-	73,356	73,356	64,716
MCF Sage + contr	3.4	-	1,175	1,175	891
Education Authority	3.4	-	2,600	2,600	3,279
MCF DFD Grant		-	1,500	1,500	-
Monkstown Community Forum Programmes		18,656	-	18,656	20,186
ANBC Community Grant	3.4	-	7,313	7,313	7,313
ANBC Christmas Grant	3.4	-	500	500	-
ANBC payment from 2023/24		1,082	-	1,082	-
ANBC Bursary for Toby		-	1,000	1,000	-
Rent from Hire of Premises		23,377	-	23,377	23,916
Covenanted gifts for re:think		-	10,946	10,946	-
Grant from Smurfit		-	2,494	2,494	-
Keep NI Beautiful Grant		-	1,056	1,056	-
Garden Services		-	731	731	-
School Uniforms		200	-	200	-
Grab A Grand Grant		-	1,250	1,250	-
Gift from COGS		-	500	500	-
Barnardo's Programmes		364	-	364	-
Catering		130	-	130	-
Miscellaneous		475	-	475	244
Bank Interest		290	-	290	273
		-----	-----	-----	-----
		44,574	104,421	148,995	120,818
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total		45,674	112,086	157,760	127,087

Monkstown Village Initiatives Company Number: N.I. 063696

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2025 (continued)

4	EXPENDITURE	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Charitable Activities						
	Salaries and Ass Costs	4.1	27,835	85,855	113,690	103,018
	Heat and Light	4.3	2,709	3,500	6,209	7,473
	Office Costs	4.3	1,422	300	1,722	1,011
	Cleaning Materials		1,118	-	1,118	661
	Insurance		999	-	999	865
	Activities and Community Events	4.2	4,056	9,307	13,363	4,152
	Room Hire	4.3	-	5,760	5,760	7,560
	Reg & Prof. fees	4.3	245	695	940	1,035
	Travel and Training		36	-	36	480
	Software/Hardware	4.3	45	1,175	1,220	-
	Gifts		100	-	100	100
	Bank Fees		159	-	159	147
	Subscriptions	4.3	90	900	990	1,333
	Vehicle Hire	4.3	240	1,345	1,585	2,380
	Clothing		-	-	-	518
	Sundries		-	-	-	31
			39,054	108,837	147,891	130,764

5 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2025 £	2024 £
Balance brought forward	41,247	(546)	40,701	44,378
Income for the year	45,674	112,086	157,760	127,087
Expenditure for the Year	39,054	108,837	147,891	130,764
Balance carried forward	47,867	2,703	50,570	40,701

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2025 (continued)

Note 3.1 Donations

Donations of £8,765 Unrestricted £1,110, Restricted £6012 to Rethink, £1653 to YouthWorks

	£	Unrestricted	Rethink	Youthworks
Gifts from Glenabbey	2,000	1100		900
Glenabbey Charity Football match	580		580	
Open House Trust	2,000		2000	
Gift from COGS	500		500	
Green Boxes	393			393
Human Kind Foundation	360			360
Flourish Group	622		622	
Newtownabbey Friends	400		400	
Therapy Donations	1,910		1,910	
Total	8,765	1,100	6,012	1,653

Note 3.2

Income restricted to MVI YouthWorks, re:think and Garden.

Note 3.3

Income restricted to Sage expenditure.

Note 3.4 Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council (A&NBC) Grants

Community Grant is a combination of:

Premises Grant £5,000 restricted to general spend on heat, light, room rental and examination of accounts.

A&NBC Programmes Grant £2,313 restricted to spend by MVI YouthWorks, re:think and Garden

A&NBC Christmas Grant £500 restricted to spend by re:think/re:act

Note 3.5

Income restricted to MVI YouthWorks

Note 3.6

Income restricted to spend on light and heat

Note 3.7

Income restricted to the Garden projects

Note 3.8

Income restricted to the re:think/re:act projects

Monkstown Village Initiatives Company Number: N.I. 063696

Expenditure

Note 4.1 Breakdown of Salaries

Paid out	£
Wages and Salaries	110,532
Employers National Insurance	1,468
Employers pension Contribution	1,690
Total	113,690

Monkstown Village Initiatives employ 1 full-time staff and 9 part-time staff, none of whom receives more than £60,000 per year.

The Charity has paid all National Insurance Contributions up to date. It makes pension contributions in line with The Pensions Regulator guidance.

The Directors received no salaries and have received no expenses during the year.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2025 (continued)

Note 4.2 Activities and Community Events

£13,363 - from re:think activities £2,206, YouthWorks £7,530 and Garden project £3,627

Re:think/re:act activities	
Christmas Afternoon Tea	735
Visit Folk Museum	166
Repay COGS overpayment	500
Wreath Making workshops	504
Resources for Flourish meetings	301
Total	2,206
MVI Youthworks activities	
ACE Sprayworks	685
Visit Scrapyard Golf	186
Abbey Pool and Snooker	670
BreckinHill Outdoor centre	840
Visit Streamvale farm	229
Tayto Tours	250
The Big House	526
Lake Kilrea	900
Noel Carson Catering	219
Spark	100
Patricia McNally craft day	364
Gifts to 5 charities	500
Christmas prizes	225
Easter activities	252
End of Year June celebration	172
Refund unspent EA Grant	542
Materials for Impact girl's Group	174
Resources for misc. events	536
Total	7,530

Monkstown Village Initiatives Company Number: N.I. 063696

Garden Project	
Spring flowerpot workshops	201
Plants for Spark workshop	193
Plants for Autumn workshops	195
Plant workshops November	222
Wreath making workshops	487
Whittling workshops	300
Plants for the garden	653
Materials for pond and surround	1,116
Plants for Surestart programme	56
Total	3,627
Overall Total	13,363

Restricted £9,307

Non-Restricted £4,056

Monkstown Village Initiatives Company Number: N.I. 063696

Analysis of expenditure on Restricted Funding for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

Note 4.3 Expenditure on Restricted Funding

Donations and Legacies	£7,665			
re:think/re:act £6012		Professional fees	695	
		Room Rental	3,060	
		Wreath Making	252	
		Christmas Tea Party	235	
		Flourish Spend	217	
		Salary	1,553	6,012
MVI YouthWorks Spend against £1653		TLG Spend Subscriptions + resources	900	
		5 Charities	500	
		Easter Activities	253	1,653
			Total	7,665
Grant Funding	Grant Funding £	Activities Undertaken	Spend against Grant £	Total £
MCF re:think Salaries & projects	10,236	Salary		10,236
MCF Youth Salaries & projects	50,880	Youth Workers' salaries		50,880
MVI Garden Salaries & projects	12,240	Gardener's Salary		11,172
		Blackberry Farm	300	
		Materials for pond	228	
		Hannah's Nursery Plants	125	
		Summer Workshops	271	
		Sept. Workshops	108	1,032
Underspend c/f 2025-26			36	
		Total		
Office Costs	1,175	Sage Software + Hardware		1,175
EA Grant	2,600		Spend	
		ACE Sprayworks	685	
		Transport to Portrush	625	
		Net World Sports	41	
		FIFA 25	60	
		Scrapyard Golf	186	
		Youth Stationery	48	

Monkstown Village Initiatives Company Number: N.I. 063696

		Christmas Resources	94	
		USB Anker HUB	90	
		Abbey Craft Pool & Snooker	670	
		Folders	24	2,523
Underspend to return 2025-26			77	
Smurfit	2,494		Spend	
		The Big House	526	526
Still to spend 2025/26			1,968	
MCF DFD	£1,500	Light and Heat		1,500
Grab a Grand	£1,250			
		Lake Kilrea	900	
		Noel Carson Catering	210	1,110
Still to spend 2025/26			140	
ANBC Community Grant	£7,313	Rent	2,700	
		Heat and Light	2,000	
		Examination of Accounts	300	
		Flourish Spring and Christmas catering	166	
		Youth Easter and Summer entrance fees	1,318	
		materials and Equipment	252	
		Transport Hire	720	
		Arts and Crafts	168	
		Total		7,624
		Already Received	7,313	
		To be claimed during 2025/26	311	
ANBC Christmas Grant	£500			
		Sarah's Sweet Treats	735	
		Overspend	235	
		Claimed against Donations	235	500
Keep NI Beautiful	1,056	Premium Pond starter pack	103	
		Multiple Flower packs	332	
		Multiple Flower packs	99	
		kelly Stone	80	
		New leaf Compost	90	
		Sam Kirk	490	
		Kelly Stone	151	

Monkstown Village Initiatives Company Number: N.I. 063696

		Screwfix	68	
		Andy's Stores	11	
		BeechGrove Nursery	24	1,448
		Already Received	1,056	
Claim remainder of grant in 2025/26			392	
Bursary for Toby from ANBC	1,000	Will be spent in June 2025 on new cover for pollytunnel	1,000	
Covenanted Gifts	10,946	CBT Salary		10,946
Garden Services	731	Will be used during 2025/26	731	
Duplicate payment from COGS	500	Returned		500
TOTAL				
	104,420			101,172
TOTAL	7,665			7,665
	112,086			
		Allocated Unspent		3,952
				112,789
		To be claimed in 2024/25		703
				112,086
From Above 2024				
Under spend Youth 2024	2,221			
Under spend Garden 2024	1,701			
Total Underspend	3,952			
To be Claimed General	311			
To be Claimed garden	392			

Monkstown Village Initiatives

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102393

Accounts

MONKSTOWN VILLAGE INITIATIVES LIMITED

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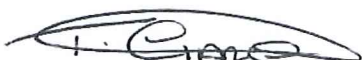
Basis of Independent Examiner's report

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 - (ii) to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities;have not been met; or
- (b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



Signed _____ Date 09/10/2024

Tony Clarke FCPA
53 Andersonstown Road
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including an Income & Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31st March 2024

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The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2024	Restricted Funds 2024	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
Income					
Donations and Legacies	3	1,411	4,858	6,269	8,282
Income from Charitable Activities	3	44,619	76,199	120,818	116,247
TOTAL		<u>46,030</u>	<u>81,057</u>	<u>127,087</u>	<u>124,529</u>
Expenditure					
Charitable Activities	4	46,902	83,862	130,764	133,400
Total Expenditure		<u>46,902</u>	<u>83,862</u>	<u>130,764</u>	<u>133,400</u>
NET Incoming / Expenditure for the year before transfers		<u>(872)</u>	<u>(2,805)</u>	<u>(3,677)</u>	<u>(8,871)</u>
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		<u>(872)</u>	<u>(2,805)</u>	<u>(3,677)</u>	<u>(8,871)</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Fund Balances Brought Forward	5	<u>42,119</u>	<u>2,259</u>	<u>44,378</u>	<u>53,249</u>
Fund Balances Carried Forward	5	<u>41,247</u>	<u>(546)</u>	<u>40,701</u>	<u>44,378</u>

Monkstown Village Initiatives Company Number: N.I. 063696

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2024

	Notes	2024	2023
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Fixed Assets	2	-	-
CURRENT ASSETS			
Bank Balance		41,991	44,696
Debtors		555	55
		<u>42,546</u>	<u>44,751</u>
CREDITORS: Amounts due in less than one year			
Creditors and Accruals		<u>(1,832)</u>	<u>(373)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>40,701</u>	<u>44,378</u>
NET ASSETS		<u><u>40,701</u></u>	<u><u>44,378</u></u>
REPRESENTED BY:			
Accumulated Fund - Restricted	5	(546)	2,259
Accumulated Fund - Unrestricted	5	41,247	42,119
		<u>40,701</u>	<u>44,378</u>

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31st March 2024.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 12th September 2024

Nigel Beattie
 Nigel Beattie Director (Treasurer)
 Company Registration Number: NI063696

The notes on the pages following (19 to 27), form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1st January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Monkstown Village Initiatives meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees are of the opinion that the charity is a going concern due to the level of reserves in place. The trustees have considered this in the knowledge that on the 30th January, the World Health Organisation (WHO) announced Coronavirus as a global health emergency and on the 11th March 2020, it announced that Coronavirus was a global pandemic.

c) Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of restricted funds is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Restricted funds may only be transferred to general or designated funds once the criteria for restriction have been discharged or no longer apply.

d) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the rent, funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. Income is deferred only when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to use it in the period.

e) Donated services and facilities

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of supporters is not recognised.

f) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2024 (continued)

Expenditure is classified under the following activity heading:

- Expenditure on charitable activities comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

g) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following basis:

Office Equipment	20% straight line
Furniture & Fittings	20% straight line

h) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term current accounts.

i) Value added tax

Value added tax is not recoverable by the charity, and as such is included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

j) Taxation

The company is a registered charity and the charitable tax exemptions are therefore being claimed to the extent that income and/or gains are applicable and applied to charitable purposes only. These exemptions will remain in place as long as income and expenditure is applied to charitable purposes only.

Critical Accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about carrying the amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both the current and future periods.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2024 (continued)

2 FIXED ASSETS

	Furniture & Fittings £	Office Equipment £	Total £
COST			
as at 1 April 2023	244	1,678	1,922
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
as at 31 March 2024	244	1,678	1,922
 DEPRECIATION			
as at 1 April 2023	-	-	-
Charge for the Year	244	1,678	1,922
as at 31 March 2024	244	1,678	1,922
 NBV			
as at 1 April 2023	244	1,678	1,922
as at 31 March 2024	-	-	-

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2024 (continued)

3 INCOME	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
<i>Donations and Legacies</i>					
Donations	3.1	1,411	4,858	6,269	8,282
		1,411	4,858	6,269	8,282
<i>Charitable Activities</i>					
Monkstown Com Forum Salaries etc.	3.2	-	64,716	64,716	61,338
MCF Sage + contr	3.3	-	891	891	731
Education Authority	3.5	-	3,279	3,279	3,000
Enkalon grant for garden		-	-	-	250
Monkstown Community Forum Programmes		20,186	-	20,186	17,475
ANBC Premises Grant	3.4	-	3,750	3,750	5,000
ANBC Programmes Grant	3.2	-	3,563	3,563	500
Rent from Hire of Premises		23,916	-	23,916	27,230
Miscellaneous		244	-	244	131
Soil Association Grant		-	-	-	500
Bank Interest		273	-	273	92
		44,619	76,199	120,818	116,247
Total		46,030	81,057	127,087	124,529

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2024 (continued)

4	EXPENDITURE	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
<i>Charitable Activities</i>						
	Salaries and Ass Costs	4.1	38,302	64,716	103,018	103,499
	Heat and Light	4.3	4,394	3,079	7,473	5,891
	Office Costs		120	891	1,011	1,049
	Cleaning Materials		661	-	661	666
	Insurance		865	-	865	1,622
	Activities & Community Events	4.2	558	3,594	4,152	11,775
	Sundries		31	-	31	121
	Room Hire	4.3	1,306	6,254	7,560	5,760
	Reg & Prof. fees	4.3	-	1,035	1,035	1,100
	Travel and Training	4.3	35	445	480	48
	Gifts		100	-	100	130
	Bank Fees		147	-	147	149
	Subscriptions	4.3	183	1,150	1,333	1,310
	Vehicle Hire	4.3	200.00	2,180	2,380	280
	Clothing	4.3	-	518	518	-
			46,902	83,862	130,764	133,400

5 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 £	2023 £
Balance brought forward	42,119	2,259	44,378	53,249
Income for year	46,030	81,057	127,087	124,529
Expenditure for the Year	46,902	83,862	130,764	133,400
Balance carried forward	41,247	(546)	40,701	44,378

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2024 (continued)

Note 3.1 Donations

Donations of £6,269 Unrestricted £1,411 , Restricted £3,055 to Rethink, £1,598 to YouthWorks, £205 to Garden

	£	Unrestricted	Rethink	Youthworks	Garden
Gift Aid	1,518	290	1,228	-	-
Gifts from Glenabbey	2,000	1,100	-	900	-
Amazon Smile	21	21	-	-	-
Gift from Rotary	300	-	300	-	-
Gift from COGS	205	-	-	-	205
Green Boxes	198	-	-	198	-
Gift from Abbey	750	-	250	500	-
Donations for Rethink	1,277	-	1,277	-	-
Total	6,269	1,411	3,055	1,598	205

Note 3.2

Income restricted to MVI YouthWorks, re:think and Garden.

Note 3.3

Income restricted to Sage expenditure.

Note 3.4 Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council (A&NBC) Grants

Premises Grant £5,000 restricted to general spend on heat, light, room rental and cleaning materials.

Note 3.5

Income restricted to MVI YouthWorks

Expenditure

Note 4.1 Breakdown of Salaries

Paid out	£
Wages and Salaries	100,238
Employers National Insurance	1,745
Employers pension Contribution	1,752
Refund SSP	236
Total	103,499

Monkstown Village Initiatives employ 2 full-time staff and 8 part-time staff, none of whom receives more than £60,000 per year.

The Charity has paid all National Insurance Contributions up to date. It makes pension contributions in line with The Pensions Regulator guidance.

The Directors received no salaries and have received no expenses during the year.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2024 (continued)

Note 4.2 Activities and Community Events

£4,152 - from re:think activities £1,196, YouthWorks £2,508 and Garden project £448

re:think/re:act activities	£
Christmas Afternoon Tea	601
Materials for Flourish	127
Visit to Secret Garden	468
Total	1,196
MVI YouthWorks activities	
Resources for TLG	16
Visit Carrickfergus Castle	120
Repairs	129
Summer Scheme outings	1,066
AccessNI Checks	9
Printer	155
Darts Equipment	94
Stationary	66
Sports Equipment	71
Arts and Crafts supplies	346
Resources for Christmas events	242
Resources for Summer events	194
Total	2,508
Garden Project	
Plants for Summer programmes	162
SureStart Programme supplies	123
Plants for October Planter Day	163
Total	448
Overall Total	4,152

Restricted £3,594

Non-Restricted £558

Monkstown Village Initiatives Company Number: N.I. 063696

Analysis of expenditure on Restricted Funding for the Year Ended 31st March 2024

Note 4.3 Expenditure on Restricted Funding

Donations and Legacies	£4,858			
re:think/re:act £3,035		Professional fees	735	
		CBT Materials	566	
		Rent	1,754	3,055
MVI YouthWorks Spend against £1,598		TLG Spend Subscriptions + resources	900	
		Clothing	518	
		Materials	480	1,598
Garden project £205		Subscription A Rocha	205	205
			Total	4,858
Grant Funding	Grant Funding £	Activities Undertaken	Spend against Grant £	Total £
MVI re:think salaries/projects	8,196	Salary		8,196
MVI YouthW Salaries/projects	45,360	Youth Workers' salaries		45,360
MVI Garden Salaries/projects	11,160	Garden Manager's Salary		11,160
Office Costs	891	Sage Software + Hardware		891
EA Grant	2,200		Spend	
		Net Worlds Sports		
		Dart Board	20	
		Darts	18	
		Darts mat	20	
		Board Surround	25	
		Delivery etc.	11	
		HP Printer	155	
		Glue Sticks	17	
		Scissors	23	
		Colouring Pens	25	
		Spike ball	52	
		XBox Dock	20	
		Eurooffice	346	
		Staff Training	329	
		United Bus Company	650	
		Total		1,711
Underspend c/f 2024/25			489	

Monkstown Village Initiatives Company Number: N.I. 063696

EA Grant	1,079		Spend	
		Electricity Feb/Mar 2024	478	
		Gas Mar 2024	601	
		Total		1,079
Over paid Room Rental from Connected Health	£1,800	Returned 11/05/2024		1,800
Soil Association Grant	£161	Carried forward from last year		
		Travelling	116	
		Subscription A Roche	45	161
A&NBC Community Grant	£8,346	Rent	2,700	
		Heat and Light	2,000	
		Examination of Accounts	300	
		Flourish Spring and Christmas catering	630	
		Youth Easter and Summer entrance fees	930	
		Transport Hire	1,530	
		Arts and Crafts	256	
		Total		8,346
		Already received	7,313	
		To be claimed during 2024/25	1,033	
TOTAL				
	79,193			78,704
TOTAL	4,858			4,858
	84,051			83,562
		Allocated Unspent		1,289
				85,340
		To be claimed in 2024/25		1,033
				83,818
Overspend from 2024		Underspend from 2024		
MVI YouthWorks	0	MVI Youth Misc.		489
MVI Garden Project	0			0
MVI rethink	0	MVI Rethink		0
		Unspent against A&NBC Grant Misc		1,033

Monkstown Village Initiatives

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102393

Annual report



REPORT AND
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT

YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

COMPANY NUMBER: N.I. 063696

Year ended 31st March 2024

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COMPANY INFORMATION

Directors:

Mr Stephen Acheson (Chairman)

Mrs Jill Harkness (Company Secretary)

Mr Nigel Beattie (Treasurer)

Mrs Susan Hamilton

Mr Clifford Lyons

Mr Peter Morrow (co-opted on 22nd February 2024)

Mr Alan Taylor

Registered Office: 18 Monkstown Village Centre
Newtownabbey
BT37 0HS

Bankers: Ulster Bank Limited
202-206 York Street
Belfast
BT15 1HY

Independent Examiners: Tony Clarke
53 Andersonstown Road
Belfast
BT11 9AG

Status: **Monkstown Village Initiatives is:**
A Company Limited by Guarantee **(NI063696)**
Registered with the NI Charity Commission June 2015
(Charity number NIC102393)

Recognised as charitable by the Inland Revenue
(Reference number XR29636)

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024**

Structure, governance, management and ethos

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 4th December 2009 as The Care Centre (Monkstown). A name change, to Monkstown Village Initiatives, was registered with Companies House on 1st September 2011 and registered as a charity with HMRC on 17th October 2012. Monkstown Village Initiatives was registered with the Northern Ireland Charities' Commission on 1st June 2015. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. Monkstown Village Initiatives is an organisation motivated by Christian principles and values, seeking to embody these through the programmes and services it provides/offers.

In the event of the charity being wound up, members will contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Recruitment and appointment of Directors

- Article 31 (i) Unless otherwise determined by the charity in general meeting, the number of directors shall not be more than 12 or less than 5.
- Article 33 The directors shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) by the members present (in person, or through an authorised representative or by proxy) and also once a year before the AGM one minister from each of Abbey Presbyterian Church, Monkstown Baptist Church and the Church of the Good Shepherd (Monkstown) will be invited to serve as directors for the coming year.
- Article 34 subject to Article (33a & 36) Directors may hold office for a period of 3 years and shall retire in rotation with the longest serving one third to retire at each AGM, or if it is not possible to determine that, then the third to retire shall be determined by drawing lots. On retirement members will be eligible for re-nomination and election.

Subject to Article 35, The Directors shall

- (i) Have the power at any time and from time to time to appoint any person to be a Director to fill a casual vacancy. Any Directors so appointed shall hold office only until the next following Annual General Meeting and shall then be eligible for re-election.
- (ii) Have the power at any time to appoint as additional Directors up to but not exceeding a number equivalent to one third of the elected Directors for the time being. Directors so appointed shall hold office only until the next Annual General Meeting and then be eligible for re-appointment.

All Directors give their time voluntarily and received no benefits from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in the notes of the accounts.

Directors' induction and training

Directors should be familiar with the work of the charity and the community. New Directors are advised of the obligations of Trustees, the Memorandum and Articles of the charity, resourcing, and the current financial position as set out in the latest published accounts, and any future plans and objectives. They are made aware of our policies and procedures which include Child and Vulnerable Adults Protection, Data Protection, Health & Safety Policy and Financial Management.

Risk management

The major risks to which the charity is exposed, are identified and reviewed by the Directors regularly.

Organisational structure

The charity commenced this period with 6 directors. Peter Morrow was then co-opted as a director at the directors' meeting of 22nd February 2024. Peter's appointment has been registered at Companies House and with the NI Charities' Commission. With his consent, this appointment will be confirmed at the next Annual General Meeting (November 2024). The Board of Directors meet regularly and is responsible for the

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024 (continued)**

strategic direction and policy of the charity. All major decisions are undertaken by the Board, while line management of staff and day to day responsibility for the provision of services rests with the Development Manager of Monkstown Community Forum. The Board is responsible for ensuring that the charity delivers the services specified and that key performance indicators are met.

Purposes and activity

This charity's purposes, as set out in the objects contained in its Memorandum, are for the advancement of education and the protection of health, in the Monkstown area and its environs of Newtownabbey. The aims of this charity are to provide opportunities to address disadvantage. In particular, lowered attainment and poor aspiration. Activities will provide enhanced educational, social and skills outcomes, contributing toward improving the emotional health and well-being of people in Monkstown and the surrounding area. To enable connections, the charity provide excellent facilities for a range of local groups of different ages and interests. These aims fully reflect the purposes that this charity was set up to further.

We review these aims, objectives and activities each year. This review looks at what has been achieved and the outcomes of the work undertaken in the previous 12 months in order to ensure our aims, objectives and activities remain focused on our stated purposes.

Our main objectives for the year continued to be:

- To deliver mentoring and follow-up drop-ins along with the Educational & Personal Development for young people co-operating with the local schools and in-centre;
- To provide mental health therapy, support and education to the local community;
- To deliver our StressBEAT programmes in the local schools and organisations;
- To grow our Flourish group, a mental health and wellbeing group for over 60s; and
- To continue to transform the Community Garden, at the rear of Monkstown Village Centre, to be used by the community, local schools, community groups and individuals.

Monkstown Village Initiatives (MVI) held its Annual General Meeting for the period 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023, at 7.00pm on Monday 20th November 2023 in Monkstown Village Centre.

MVI 5-year strategic plan update

This strategy maps out how MVI will seek to develop community infrastructure across Monkstown and surrounding areas. Feedback is encouraged by directors and staff and an action plan based on High Level Outcomes agreed. A Strategy Review was carried out on the 18th January 2020 with discussion based on excellent presentations from staff.

Directors' meetings

There were 7 directors' meetings held during the year. The last meeting of this period was on 19th March.

Monkstown Village Initiatives continues as a member of Monkstown Community Forum and has an historic and fruitful strategic partnership with that organisation.

Reviews

- Reviews of MVI policies and financial procedures and changes are carried out on a routine basis.
- The MVI policy/procedures for General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) was adopted in May 2018.
- Risk assessments are carried out for all activities when necessary and reviewed yearly.
- MVI Children & Vulnerable Adults Policy is up to date. Colin Barr is the MVI designated person and Susan Hamilton the Board's designated person. Access NI checks have been obtained for staff and volunteers.
- Public liability insurance is £10m.

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024 (continued)**

Finance

This year Monkstown Village Initiatives had a deficit of £3,677. Monkstown Community Forum makes contributions toward MVI's YouthWorks, Gardening, re:think/re:act projects and to general funds.

The Directors have examined the charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. A reserve of £20,000 has been set aside to protect the charity's work in event of a shortfall in income and to plan for a minimum of two months' continuity should major funding streams cease.

Membership

The company currently has 31 members.

Staff

- Alan Johnston manages MVI facilities, projects and staff as part of his duties as Development Manager in Monkstown Village Centre.
- Deborah Smyth is employed, part-time, in a caretaking/cleaning role, as part of the Facilities Team.
- RoseAnne (Rosie) Donnelly is employed, full-time, as a Cognitive Behavioural Therapist within the re:think/re:act service.
- Colin Barr is employed, full-time, as a senior youth worker. A monthly contribution for this post is received from Monkstown Community Forum. Colin has been transitioning to fulfil the Development Manager's role, in Monkstown Village Centre, in the future.
- Robyn Harris is employed, part-time, as a project worker in the YouthWorks Team. (Robyn returned from maternity leave at the end of March 2024.) A monthly contribution for this post is received from Monkstown Community Forum. Connie Bamford was employed to cover Robyn's maternity period. It is planned that Connie remain employed until the end of August 2024.
- Bryan Scroggie, Jodie McCord and Ben Thompson are currently sessional youth workers with MVI YouthWorks.
- Áine Gilchrist continues as Garden Manager of Monkstown Village Garden. A monthly contribution for this post is received from Monkstown Community Forum.
- Roy Millar, of Monkstown Community Forum, is paid to provide gardening support, in Monkstown Village Centre and other sites, where necessary.

Pensions are set up with NEST (National Employment Savings Trust) to accommodate those for whom it is a statutory requirement.

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024 (continued)**

Public Benefit to the community

To ensure compliance of Public Benefit, we have a policy of open and inclusive access to MVI's accommodation and programmes.

Purpose (1) *'To involve young people (9-25yr olds) in discovering and living out their full potential and to develop supportive initiatives.'*

MVI YouthWorks

Youth Club

Youth Club continues to be the highlight of the week, with still a good number of children turning up week after week, and a number dropping in and out depending on the weather usually.

Throughout this year we had enjoyed quite a variety of activities and a lot of opportunities to chat with the young people that come along. One of the greatest things that I experienced this year was the interest shown by those of the senior group who wanted to be able to help as a volunteer. We have always found that as our club is for P5-Y8, when children start moving into secondary school they tend to stop coming here. For the last year we have had 2 young men who have been wanting to keep in touch, as well as getting to keep coming to the club. We gave them the chance to be junior helpers, with responsibilities to help throughout the night. This probably wasn't a very strict rule and probably by the end of the year, they were just a couple of older kids joining in the fun.

It was at the end of the year, June 23' that we had a real problem. There were now almost a dozen young people who would be moving into Y9 and therefore too old for youth club. A great problem to have, but not for them. The request was made for what they were going to do if they couldn't attend on Wednesday nights. It was decided that we would allow them to help out alongside some of the other junior helpers, but that there would be more rules for them to follow rather than just coming along for the fun.

We also decided that it was possibly the right time to start up a youth club for secondary school age children. This was set up for September 2023, with Connie taking the lead in this. Unfortunately, with Connie leaving after a year with us we are now looking for a lead person to look after this. Saturday night has been a great opportunity to keep in touch with these older children, but as well having some of them helping out on Wednesday also allows us the opportunity to help develop them, guide them and encourage them to make wise decisions.

IMPACT Girls' Group

Impact continued to provide an opportunity for secondary school age girls to meet together and the hope was that with connecting with Y8 Heads of Year (HoY), we would be able to support more girls with the difficulties that they face transitioning into their new schools.

We did have a good core of girls who we have worked with for a few years, and it is great to see that even though they attend school in Ballyclare they still make the effort to come down. The girls have had a number of visitors in to discuss a wide variety of topics that the girls might be affected by or know someone who has been. Mental health, self-worth, non-verbal communication, energy drinks, bereavement, all of these are prevalent in young people's circles today and hopefully those groups who came and helped will feel they are a step closer to supporting anyone who feels they are in need.

We continued to encourage the Y8 HoY to direct any girls who they may feel would benefit from joining the group. Also, with having some of our volunteers working as assistants in the school, increasing the attendance at SU. We have been able to grow the group to a very pleasing number. We hope that although they are not the same age they develop friendships that can make a difference at any stage inside or outside of school.

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024 (continued)**

Junior Youth Challenge (JYC) / Good News Club (GNC)

As we finished of the year at JYC we were quite pleased with the attendance of all the children who came along. I think sometimes when we work with young people in Christian context, we can get into a rut of thinking it is always about helping children to learn more about their faith. This is not the case here in Monkstown, as a lot of the kids we are in contact with do not have a faith background. It can be quite tricky to balance that aspect when you have a mixed bag in front of you. It was suggested that we have 2 groups, those who understand a little bit and those who are sceptical or reject what the bible teaches. I think there is some merit in this, but I think that with only a little extra effort we can teach those who have a faith to be able to share that for themselves by building their confidence in their knowledge.

When we returned in September, we were back where we started. The only children who were coming were ones with a faith. We took the opportunity to develop their understanding of what it means to be a follower and even on some evenings rather than teaching them from the front we relaxed on the sofas and chatted through the talks and asked more questions rather than just listening. I found this to be a blessed time and hopefully the kids got something out of it too. Thankfully as the year progressed, we did have an increase in numbers, and it was good to help some children who were considering Christianity and its application to life in general.

We continue to have a good number of kids at GNC, albeit all girls but we will try to rectify this, but it might prove tricky with BB on the same night. It is very interesting to see enthusiasm in young primary school-aged children compared to the P7-age up to teens and the attitude changes towards what is cool or even just fun to do rather than what people think about me and what I'm doing. As we look towards the new year starting it will all be about advertising and encouraging our churches to consider GNC as an option for teaching children about the bible and encouraging them to send children along to hear God's word.

Mentoring

Mentoring continues to be the focus of our work here. It is a real blessing to be a part of not just a child's life but in the case of TLG, the family. Each week we continue to meet with boys and girls of both primary and secondary age, walking alongside them through their current circumstances. Sometime this can be long periods of silence especially with teenagers, but it is about building confidence and a connection that allows them to feel comfortable in sharing with you or even taking onboard what advice you have for them. We are seeing more and more children in need of support, especially at primary school age. It is great to be able to work with the local churches in providing mentors to go into Hollybank on a weekly basis to be a part of the development of the children of Monkstown and alongside that with the other programs we offer hopefully we are covering as many children as possible.

Learning Hub

Learning Hub continued through the year until summer term ended. We had a constant number of 12, which isn't bad, in fact it is quite nice to work with, but one of the desires was to provide opportunity for as many kids as possible to attend.

We had Play it by Ear, a drama group, and Trisha McNally, an artist, come along through the year and encourage the children to explore new skills and build confidence in themselves and not to be comparing themselves to those around them.

We considered in the new school term to open Learning Hub to P4 children up to P7. We knew this would be a bit of a challenge as we have no prior connection with a lot of these children, and they probably have never been to the Centre or know anything about it. Also, the understanding of P4 children and what is appropriate behaviour is to be experienced. The first few weeks meant a lot of patience with them to help them settle in and to be able to sit, listen and follow instructions. We also noticed a lot more needs from this

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024 (continued)**

age group, educationally as well as emotionally. Throughout the year we were having to monitor certain children and their behaviour towards each other. Keeping them apart or even speaking to parents to make them aware of what was going on. It wasn't anything more than a dislike for one another or one getting some attention more than the other.

It has been a great year and there has been a lot of learning done from helping with homework, encouraging children to try a little harder or to do a little more than the teacher may have asked for. We focused a lot at the start of the year with handwriting skills. A bit of a bug bear of mine, is that children form letters incorrectly or don't write on lines! It is interesting to see the differing attitudes towards why and how things are done. Children can be very much about what they can get from it and if it doesn't benefit them, they just won't try. If it seems difficult there is no interest in persevering. Encouragement is the key rather than, well that's okay if you don't want to. Again, a valuable aspect is the volunteers that we have supporting us in this work.

Summer Scheme

We held our summer scheme the weeks of 24th July to 28th July and 31st July to 4th August 2023. This year we decided to go for a bit of a science theme, which of course meant lots of mess and creativity and well as (hopefully) expanding our minds.

We were very fortunate to have the weather on our side this year, so we took full advantage getting outside as much as possible. Our trips this year saw us visiting, Stormont and Mo Mowlam playpark, with a lot of walking and searching for different creatures around the walks, we even made it up to the top, which of course meant for children wanting to roll down the hills as we returned. We also visited the Planetarium, Armagh, which was one that a lot of the kids had never done before. Our science experiments allowed us to get messy, wet and to use lots and lots of packing tape. Many an egg was cracked and as far as I'm aware none were put back together again. There were giant bubbles and even square bubbles, yes, square bubbles.

Our second week saw us staying a bit closer to home, with a trip to the National Stadium, Windsor Park for a tour, which was very enjoyable. We also had the support of Trisha McNally, an artist we have used before, who has a great way with the children and lots of great ideas for them to try. A summer scheme never really finishes until we have visited Airtastic, Newtownabbey, and had a water fight. I feel it has even become part of the leaders' highlights as everyone loves a good water fight.

SPARK Newtownabbey

This year we met in Carmoney Presbyterian Church, and we had 4 teams. Ballyclare, Monkstown, Rathcoole, and this year a new team in New Mossley. We had decided to take a break from Ballyduff as there had been a bit of hassle with some of the local lads and it was felt that a year to separate from that might be good. It was also in the pipeline to start up a team in New Mossley, so this was a perfect opportunity to do so.

With almost 140 volunteers going out into these areas we were looking forward to the opportunities that would come our way.

The Monkstown team consisted of 32 volunteers and would be involved again in gardening, sports, children's club, car wash and drop-in. Of those 32 volunteers, only 5 had direct connections with one of the churches from the area. It would be part of the plans to try to encourage the local churches to be more pro-active in participating in the week's activities. That said, we do have the support of the churches in helping with the catering and use of their premises for activities. As the aim is to try to encourage people into church it would be beneficial to have people from the churches being seen as part of the work.

Throughout all these activities the plan is always to be able to show that Christianity is a faith displaying compassion, co-operation, and faith, which we feel is what is lacking in our society today. Seeing people in

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024 (continued)**

our community interacting with each other and going the extra mile to help people with things that we not considered previously. The gratitude shown by people and the willingness to have conversations shows the need to be in the community and engaging with people where they are.

Staffing

As always, our staff are great and thoroughly on point when it comes to our programs. We are very blessed to have such good connections with our partner churches, who support us financially as well as with personnel.

It has been great to have been able to continue our programs, especially Robyn being on maternity leave, with Connie covering. We have been able to keep Connie on until August. She has been such a great fit to the team. This has been a great year and as we move into 24/25 we can only hope and pray that we continue to serve the community of Monkstown in Jesus' name.

Bryan, Ben, Caitlyn, Cherifa, Connie, Jessica, Jodie, Robyn and Colin

Monkstown Village Garden (MVG)

Áine Gilchrist completed her first year as Garden Manager in MVG and continued growing vegetables/flowers, delivering workshops and programmes, supporting volunteers, raising funds/resources and engaging with local community.

Volunteers

MVG continued to be well supported by a team of regular volunteers, usually every Monday evening (Spring-Autumn, 6.30-9pm) and Tuesday/Thursday (10-1pm). Monday's are usually for workshops and programmes. We have said goodbye to some of our regular volunteers who have properly retired or moved on, as well as welcomed a few new regular volunteers. On average the garden has 15 regular volunteers, who contributed over 500 hours from August 2023 to March 2024. Volunteer ages range from 17 through to those in their 80s and we continued to support volunteers who had additional needs.

MVG benefited from a weekly group of students from Abbey Community College, Year 8 and Year 10 on alternate weeks, through the academic year, who moved much of the mulch around the site.

Many of our improvement projects in the garden continued to be delivered by volunteers' hard work – laying mulch, stones and building wooden shelving/benches.

Volunteers have been invaluable when running events and projects in the garden – helping with preparation, delivery, refreshments and tidying up.

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way this year in the garden!

Networking/Partnerships

MVG continued to develop existing and create new partnerships and connections with local groups, individuals and businesses, as well as further afield including A Rocha, Eden Community Action Group and Social Farms & Gardens (UK & Ireland). These connections brought local individuals and groups into the garden for regular sessions, workshops and one-off visits. MVG visited other gardens and projects, helping share best practise. We continued to encourage the local community to use MVG to enjoy the benefits of being in a green space, even for social/leisure use. (Ten Coffee customers used the garden Pergola Area, particularly when the weather was good, and especially on weekends.) Other connections, local and beyond, have been:

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024 (continued)**

- Abbey Community College – Learning support Unit
- A Rocha – formal partnership launched summer 2023
- 1st Monkstown Scouts – Beavers, garden workshop, November 2023
- Garden Show Ireland – Mayor's event May 2023
- A&NBC - Best Kept Garden Awards November 2023
- Mental Health Wellness Hub, Whiteabbey Hospital – garden visits 2023-24
- COGS – Workshops 2023 & 2024
- Newtownabbey Rotary
- Community Gardens Ireland (all island) online conference – March 2023
- Whiteabbey Community Garden & GrowNI community Garden (Belfast)
- Green Flag Awards ceremony 2023
- Existing MVI Facebook page and new Instagram @MonkstownVillageGarden

Grants/Resources

MVG received funds this year both through on-going relationships and by successfully applying for grants (financial and in-kind):

- Community Involvement Grant (NIHE) – Growing Social, men's mental health, 6-week wellbeing programme, with Rosie Donnelly.
- New Horizon - £1000 worth of gardening equipment, including one pallet of compost.
- Keeping NI Beautiful – Free gardening resources give away.
- Areas at Risk funding – Flower pots & wreath making workshops.
- Monkstown Community Forum - Garden Manager and Dfl garden development.

Training

Áine undertook the following training relating to MVG.

- CPR training – Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council (A&NBC) supported.
- Eden Community Action UK – online 6-week course.

Events

MVG continued to offer regular workshops, programmes and events through the year, in MVG and at other locations. These helped improve community gardening skills, bringing people together, reducing isolation, as well as creating nature-based resources for their homes and gardens. These events were well supported and were facilitated with help from MVG volunteers.

- Flower pot planting workshops x 4 – September & March (80+ pots – Areas@Risk programme funding)
- Christmas wreath workshops x 2 – December (30+ wreaths – Areas@Risk programme funding)
- Volunteer Thank You events – volunteer week June 2023 and Christmas 2023
- A Rocha – Partnership launch event June 2023 with A&NBC's Mayor and other guests
- Abbey Presbyterian Church – Abbey Tots (40+) workshop May 2023
- Church of the Good Shepherd – Christmas table-top decoration workshop
- Plant & wooden planter distribution – various through year

Awards

MVG entered for the following awards

- Green Flag Award 2023-24 was maintained and application was submitted for 2024-25, as well as Pollinator Award. Awaiting outcome July 2024.
- Runner up – Sustainable Planting Award – A&NBC Best Kept Garden Awards 2023

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024 (continued)**

Garden Improvements 2023-24

- New low fencing along the service yard edge, including three new gates. New large entrance gate installed along fence facing Cashel Close.
- Flag pole for Green Flag award – Council to install raised bed beneath.
- Stones laid around newest raised beds at the rear of the polytunnel. This area is now all-weather usable (8 builders' bags – Growing Social)
- New petrol lawnmower purchased for grass areas.
- Orchard area and shrub bed area mulched (15 tonnes – distributed by Abbey Community College pupils).
- New flooring laid in polytunnel along seating benches due to wear/tear.
- Additional water bins installed along polytunnel to save even more rain water.
- New staging shelves for plants and outdoor workbench built at back of polytunnel and small patio area laid.
- New signage is planned for later in 2024.

Áine Gilchrist, Garden Manager

Purpose (2) *'To provide a modern, comfortable and inviting meeting place at the centre of the Monkstown Community.'*

Accommodation

MVI holds a 900+ year lease for the accommodation on a significant portion of the first floor of Monkstown Village Centre. This accommodation includes Meeting Rooms 1, 2 & 3; Kitchen; Youth Area and Resource Rooms 1 & 2. This is managed by Alan Johnston (Development Manager, Monkstown Village Centre).

Licensees and other users

Abbey SureStart use MVI's Upper Rooms, under license, on a daily basis. They have been with us since moving into the building in 2007. Homecare Independent Living who were also long-term license-holders, ceased to require premises during November 2022. Newtownabbey Pilates, another long-term 'user', occupies one of the rooms on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings. St John Ambulance (NI) is under license for the upper floor on Tuesday nights for their Cadet programme and selected weekends for training. A knitting group has developed since lockdown and meets on a Wednesday evening. A scrapbooking group along with Junior Youth Challenge and a Good News Club meet on a Thursday evening along with Senior Youth Challenge meeting monthly on a Saturday evening. Ad hoc/regular users complete this vital source of income for Monkstown Village Initiatives.

The re:think/re:act project has now reverted to its original space following its use of the boardroom, for its sessions with clients, after Covid-19.

During the summer months, MVI partnered with Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council (A&NBC) to provide a School Uniform Re-Use scheme. Uniform donations were received during July and distributed during August. Thanks to Irena and Susan who co-ordinated this service. It is anticipated that this scheme will run again in the summer of 2024.

Thank you to facilities' staff and volunteers, in particular, Dorothy Robinson, who has regularly closed up the building, at the end of evening programmes, for a number of years. Debbie Smyth opens and closes at other times, keeping the community space and offices clean, tidy and smelling great! David Graham and Roy Millar (Forum staff) assist with room preparation and clearance.

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024 (continued)**

We aim to make all people feel welcome. Accommodation has been found to be excellent by our users, and our facilities show a high level of demand from business, statutory, leisure, fitness, health and care-providing organisations.

A Premises grant was received from A&NBC during the 2023-2024 year. This is the second year of a three-year application previously made for Facilities, Garden, re:think and YouthWorks projects.

Purpose (3) *'To develop and provide mental health promotion and support programmes.'*

re:think/re:act (Cognitive Behavioural Therapy Service)

2023/24 has been a very busy year within the re:think/re:act project. Membership of our Flourish group has grown steadily over the year. This is mostly due to existing members recommending the group to friends and neighbours, which I think is the best form of feedback we could receive. These days we can expect 30+ individuals in attendance at our monthly gatherings. Over the year we organised a variety of speakers and activities which as always were loosely based around the 5 Steps to Wellbeing. I say 'we' but this past 12 months it has mostly been Dorothy Boyd (Dot.) who has organised the speakers and I am very grateful for her ongoing help and support. Monthly activities have ranged from a Beetle Drive to planting hanging baskets, with input from organisations as diverse as Diabetes UK and the local Neighbourhood Policing Team! We are grateful to all our 'speakers' for taking the time to talk to the Flourish group. Thanks to funding from Antrim & Newtown-abbey Borough Council we were once again able to provide a fun Christmas event and also visit the Secret Garden in Dundonald for lunch and a very informative talk on growing plants and flowers. Both events were thoroughly enjoyed by all who participated but I think the highlight of the year for most Flourish members was 'Tea with the Mayor' in March. Our thanks to local Councillor Mark Cooper for his invitation.

In May (2023) I delivered a Stress BEAT programme to the P7 pupils in Hollybank PS. As this was late in the school year it was difficult to fit in all the sessions, P7's these days have very busy schedules! As a result Miss Brett, Miss Craig and I agreed to do this year's programme in February/March (2024) which is earlier the usual but worked really well so will probably be repeated next year. Also in March I delivered some stress awareness workshops for youth leaders and young people from the Church of The Good Shepherd as well as starting a Stress BEAT programme with our own Youthworks Girls' group, Impact.

As always 1-to-1 CBT sessions made up the bulk of the work of re:think/re:act during 2023/2024. A substantial number of clients seen this year were dealing with difficulties either directly caused by, or exacerbated by, the Covid-19 pandemic. I think it will be many years before we realise the true extent of the impact the pandemic has had on people's mental health.

In my report last year I highlighted the issue of funding, or rather lack thereof. With this in mind we launched our 300 Appeal at last year's AGM. The aim of the appeal is to find 300 individuals who would be willing to commit to a standing order of (at least) £10 per month so we can keep this vital service going. The response to this has been positive and I am very grateful to everyone who has signed up, but we still have a long way to go. I am very grateful to Abbey Presbyterian who allowed me time during their community service to highlight our 300 Appeal. Hopefully I will be able to convince other churches in the wider area to do the same.

I appreciate you taking the time to read this report. If you would like to know more about any of the services offered by the re:think/re:act project please do not hesitate to contact me.

(Some funding for 1-to-1 CBT, and the Flourish and Stress BEAT programmes came through Monkstown Community Forum's Mosaic Project, an Areas at Risk programme from Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024 (continued)**

Council/Department for Communities. The Service also benefitted through the purchase of client sessions by Monkstown Community Forum on behalf of the Monkstown community.

Rosie

Organisation-wide funding information

Monkstown Village Initiatives is engaged to deliver programmes within Monkstown Community Forum's Mosaic Project through its YouthWorks, rethink/react and gardening departments. Mosaic is an Areas at Risk project funded by A&NBC and DfC (currently funded until 31st March 2025).

A&NBC funding was received in the form of a Community Development Grant during this period.

Glenabbey (Church) contribute financially (monthly) to the ongoing work of Monkstown Village Initiatives and some of its members have been involved in volunteering roles, mostly within MVI YouthWorks.

Using [Stewardship.org](https://www.stewardship.org) we offer a facility to receive gifts and donations through the MVI website.

Plans for the future

The charity intends to continue the activities outlined above in the future. The directors and staff are mindful of the challenging times we are in and will continue to review/assess opportunities which will further the charity's goals of: addressing educational under-achievement, mental health issues and encouraging people to make connections with each other.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors for the purposes of Company Law) are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of outgoing resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going-concern basis unless it is not appropriate to assume that the charity will continue on that basis.

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024 (continued)**


The Directors are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement of disclosure of information to Independent Examiners

We, the Trustees of the charity who held office at the date of approval of these Financial Statements, as set out above, each confirm so far as we are aware that:

- there is no relevant information of which the charity's independent examiners are unaware; and
- we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken as Trustees in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the charity's independent examiners are aware of that information.

The Board of Directors approved this report on 12 SEPTEMBER 2024



Stephen Acheson, Director/Chair
Company Registration Number: NI06396

Monkstown Village Initiatives

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102393

Annual return

MONKSTOWN VILLAGE INITIATIVES LIMITED

Independent Examiner's Report

To the charity trustees of Monkstown Village Initiatives Limited

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2024, which are set out on pages 17 to 27.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

The charity trustees, who are also the directors of Monkstown Village Initiatives for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under part 16 of the Companies Act 2006, and is eligible for an independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

1. examine the accounts under section 65 of the 2008 Act;
2. follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act; and
3. 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 for Northern Ireland. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the financial statements present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

Independent Examiner's statement

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

- (a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - (i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - (ii) to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities;have not been met; or
- (b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



Signed _____ Date 09/10/2024

Tony Clarke FCPA
53 Andersonstown Road
Belfast
BT11 9AG

Monkstown Village Initiatives

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102393

Accounts

Statement of Financial Activities

including an Income & Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31st March 2023

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2023	Restricted Funds 2023	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
Income					
Donations and Legacies	3	2,259	6,023	8,282	7,898
Income from Charitable Activities	3	43,128	73,119	116,247	111,437
TOTAL		45,387	79,142	124,529	119,335
Expenditure					
Charitable Activities	4	55,493	77,907	133,400	123,933
Total Expenditure		55,493	77,907	133,400	123,933
NET Incoming / Expenditure for the year before transfers		(10,106)	1235	(8,871)	(4,598)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(10,106)	1235	(8,871)	(4,598)
Reconciliation of funds					
Fund Balances Brought Forward	5	52,225	1,024	53,249	53,249
Fund Balances Carried Forward	5	42,119	2,259	44,378	53,249

Monkstown Village Initiatives Company Number: N.I. 063696

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2023

	Notes	2023	2022
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Fixed Assets	2	-	-
CURRENT ASSETS			
Bank Balance		44,696	51,505
Debtors		55	1,682
		<u>44,751</u>	<u>53,187</u>
CREDITORS: Amounts due in less than one year			
Creditors and Accruals		<u>(373)</u>	<u>(62)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>44,378</u>	<u>53,249</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>44,378</u>	<u>53,249</u>
REPRESENTED BY:			
Accumulated Fund - Restricted	5	2,259	1,024
Accumulated Fund - Unrestricted	5	42,119	52,225
		<u>44,378</u>	<u>53,249</u>

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31st March 2023.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 26th October 2023


Nigel Beattie Director (Treasurer)
Company Registration Number: NI063696

The notes on the pages following (18 to 27) form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1st January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Monkstown Village Initiatives meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees are of the opinion that the charity is a going concern due to the level of reserves in place. The trustees have considered this in the knowledge that on the 30th January, the World Health Organisation (WHO) announced Coronavirus as a global health emergency and on the 11th March 2020, it announced that Coronavirus was a global pandemic.

c) Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of restricted funds is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Restricted funds may only be transferred to general or designated funds once the criteria for restriction have been discharged or no longer apply.

d) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the rent, funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. Income is deferred only when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to use it in the period.

e) Donated services and facilities

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of supporters is not recognised.

f) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

Expenditure is classified under the following activity heading:

- Expenditure on charitable activities comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

g) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following basis:

Office Equipment	20% straight line
Furniture & Fittings	20% straight line

h) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term current accounts.

i) Value added tax

Value added tax is not recoverable by the charity, and as such is included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

j) Taxation

The company is a registered charity and the charitable tax exemptions are therefore being claimed to the extent that income and/or gains are applicable and applied to charitable purposes only. These exemptions will remain in place as long as income and expenditure is applied to charitable purposes only.

Critical Accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about carrying the amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both the current and future periods.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

2 FIXED ASSETS

	Furniture & Fittings £	Office Equipment £	Total £
COST			
as at 1 April 2022	244	1,678	1,922
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
as at 31 March 2023	<u>244</u>	<u>1,678</u>	<u>1,922</u>
DEPRECIATION			
as at 1 April 2022	-	-	-
Charge for the Year	244	1,678	1,922
as at 31 March 2023	<u>244</u>	<u>1,678</u>	<u>1,922</u>
NBV			
as at 1 April 2022	<u>244</u>	<u>1,678</u>	<u>1,922</u>
as at 31 March 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

3	INCOME	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
<i>Donations and Legacies</i>						
	Donations	3.1	2,259	6,023	8,282	7,898
			-----	-----	-----	-----
			2,259	6,023	8,282	7,898
<i>Charitable Activities</i>						
	Monkstown Community Forum Salaries etc.	3.2	-	61,338	61,338	55,223
	HMRC Job Retention Scheme		-	-	-	1,397
	MCF Sage + contr Education Authority		-	731	731	-
	Enkalon grant for garden		-	3,000	3,000	3,035
	Monkstown Community Forum Programmes		-	250	250	1,800
	ANBC Premises Grant		17,475		17,475	17,979
	ANBC Christmas Grant	3.4	-	5,000	5,000	5,000
	ANBC Summer Scheme		-	-	-	1,200
	Rent from Hire of Premises		25,430	1,800	27,230	24,855
	ST John Ambulance Training		-	-	-	200
	Harbour Commissioners Grant	3.3	-	-	-	650
	Miscellaneous		131	-	131	2
	HMRC CSSP		-	-	-	96
	Soil Association Grant			500	500	-
	Bank Interest		92	-	92	-
			-----	-----	-----	-----
			43,128	73,119	116,247	111,437
			-----	-----	-----	-----
	Total		45,387	79,142	124,529	119,335

Monkstown Village Initiatives Company Number: N.I. 063696

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

4	EXPENDITURE	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
<i>Charitable Activities</i>						
	Salaries and Ass Costs	4.1	42,161	61,338	103,499	99,641
	Interns		-	-	-	474
	Heat and Light	4.3	4,391	1,500	5,891	3,945
	Office Costs		318	731	1,049	207
	Cleaning Materials	4.3	266	400	666	919
	Insurance		1,622	-	1,622	1,503
	Activities and Community Events	4.2	2117	9,658	11,775	7,711
	Sundries		121	-	121	3
	Room Hire	4.3	2,660	3,100	5,760	5,760
	Reg & Prof. fees		1,100	-	1,100	1,055
	Travel and Training		48	-	48	371
	Gifts		130	-	130	130
	Bank Fees		149	-	149	37
	Repairs and Renewals		-	-	-	524
	Subscriptions	4.3	410	900	1,310	783
	Vehicle Hire	4.3	-	280	280	690
	Equipment Hire		-	-	-	135
	Clothing		-	-	-	45
			<u>55,493</u>	<u>77,907</u>	<u>133,400</u>	<u>123,933</u>

5 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 £	2022 £
Balance brought forward	<u>52,225</u>	<u>1,024</u>	<u>53,249</u>	<u>53,249</u>
Income for the year	45,387	79,142	124,529	119,335
Expenditure for the Year	<u>55,493</u>	<u>77,907</u>	<u>133,400</u>	<u>123,933</u>
Balance carried forward	<u>42,119</u>	<u>2,259</u>	<u>44,378</u>	<u>53,249</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

Note 3.1 Donations

Donations of £8282 Unrestricted £2,259; restricted £1,250 to re:think; £4,193 to Youth Works; £580 to Garden.

	£	Unrestricted	Rethink	Youthworks	Garden
Gift Aid	289	289	-	-	-
Gifts from Glenabbey	1,875	931	-	944	-
Amazon Smile	19	19	-	-	-
Blythswood	1,000	1,000	-	-	-
Gift from Rotary	300	-	-	-	300
Gift from COGS	1,000	-	1,000	-	-
Green Boxes	399	-	-	399	-
Gift from Abbey	500	-	-	500	-
Gift from Brown's	1,000	-	-	1,000	-
Donations for General	20	20	-	-	-
Donations for Rethink	250	-	250	-	-
Donations for Youth Works	1,350	-	-	1,350	-
Donations for Garden	280	-	-	-	280
Total	8,282	2,259	1,250	4,193	580

Note 3.2

Income restricted to MVI Youth Works, re:think and Garden.

Note 3.3

Income restricted to Gardening Project.

Note 3.4 Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council Grants

Premises Grant £5,000 restricted to general spend on heat, light, room rental and cleaning materials.

Expenditure

Note 4.1 Breakdown of Salaries

Paid out	£
Wages and Salaries	100,238
Employers National Insurance	1,745
Employers pension Contribution	1,752
Refund SSP	236
Total	103,499

Monkstown Village Initiatives employ 2 full-time workers and 7 part-time workers, none of whom receives more than £60,000 per year.

The Charity has paid all National Insurance Contributions up to date. It makes pension contributions in line with the terms from The Pensions Regulator.

The Directors received no salaries and have received no expenses during the year.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st March 2023 (continued)

Note 4.2 Activities and Community Events

£11,775 from re:think activities £643, Youth Works £8,954 and Garden project £2,178

Re:think/re:act activities	
Christmas Afternoon Tea	591
Materials for Flourish	52
Total	643
MVI Youthworks activities	
Spend against EA Grants	2,701
Easter programme	308
Summer Programme	1,376
SPARK	258
Transforming Lives For Good	44
Return unspent EA Grant	1,836
BaizeCraft – 2 table games	1,584
Nintendo	287
Play it By Ear	260
Resources for Girls' Group	39
Dodgeballs	103
Misc. Purchases	158
Total	8,954
Garden Project	
Resources for Harbour Commissioners Grant	459
Resources for Soil Association Grant	339
Materials for Garden Show Ireland	251
Plants for EA Summer Scheme	51
Grow Some Veg Workshop	180
Garden Christmas Event	423
Garden Mothers' Day event	425
Garden materials	50
Total	2,178
Overall Total	11,775

Restricted £9,658

Non-Restricted £2,117

Analysis of expenditure on Restricted Funding for the Year Ended 31st March 2023

Note 4.3 Expenditure on Restricted Funding

Donations and Legacies	£6,023			
re:think/re:act £1,550		Spend against CBT Therapist Salary		1,550
MVI Youth Works Spend against £4193		TLG Spend Subscriptions + resources	944	
		Easter Programme	308	
		Baize Craft 2 table games	1,584	
		Summer Scheme	1,357	4,193
Garden project £280		Grow Some Veg	180	
		Plants for Oct Events	50	
		Mothers' Day Event	50	280
			Total	6,023
Grant Funding	Grant Funding £	Activities Undertaken	Spend against Grant £	Total £
MCF re:think Salaries & projects	4,818	Salary		4,818
MCF Youth Salaries & projects	45,360	Youth Workers' salaries		50,959
		Overspend	5,599	
MCF Garden Salaries & projects	11,160	Gardener's Salary		10,853
		Unspent	307	
Office Costs	731	Sage Software + Hardware		731
EA Grant	3,000		Spend	
		Tesco	40	
		Hobbycraft	117	
		Amazon	31	
		The Range	18	
		Belfast Zoo	256	
		Craft workshop	310	
		Airtastic	497	
		The Arc open farm	218	
		Gaming bus	200	
		Kyles Inflatables	75	
		United Bus Company	610	
		United Bus Company	280	
		Garden Materials	51	

Monkstown Village Initiatives Company Number: N.I. 063696

		IKEA Furniture	297	3,000
Return unspent Grant to EA from 2021-22	£1,836	Returned 28/07/2023		1,836
Over paid Room Rental from Connected Health	£1,800	To be Returned during year 2023/24		1,800
Harbour Commissioners Grant for Garden Project C/F from 2021/22	£458			
		Wood	100	
		Handshakes Waves Workshop	244	
		Purchase plants	114	458
Enkalon Grant	£250	Materials for Garden Show Ireland		250
Soil Association Grant	£500	Spend against Grant		339
		To be carried forward to next year	161	
ANBC Premises Grant	£5,000			
		Room Rental	3,100	
		Electricity	900	
		Gas	600	
		Cleaning Materials	400	5,000
ANBC Christmas Grant re:think	500	Materials for Christmas event		500
	75,413	TOTAL		80,544
	81,436			86,567
		Allocated Unspent		5,599
		Allocated Overspend		468
				81,436
Underspend from 2022				
MVI Youth Works	1,359	MVI Youth Misc. Over Spend		5,599
				4,240
MVI Garden Project	2,554	Unspent against Salaries		307

Monkstown Village Initiatives Company Number: N.I. 063696

		etc		
		Soil Association Grant to spend during 2023/24		161
				468
From Above 2022 Overspend				
Over spend Youth 2023	4,240			
Under spend Garden 2023	468			
Under spend General 2023	1,800			
Total Overspend	1,972			

Monkstown Village Initiatives

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102393

Annual report



REPORT AND
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT

YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

COMPANY NUMBER: N.I. 063696

Year ended 31st March 2023

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COMPANY INFORMATION

- Directors:**
- Mr Stephen Acheson (Chairman)
 - Mrs Jill Harkness (Company Secretary)
 - Mr Nigel Beattie (Treasurer)
 - Mrs Susan Hamilton
 - Mr Scott Jamison (did not stand for re-election at AGM, Nov 22)
 - Mr Clifford Lyons
 - Mr Alan R. Taylor
- Registered Office:** 18 Monkstown Village Centre
Newtownabbey
BT37 0HS
- Bankers:** Ulster Bank Limited
2 Farmley Road
Glengormley
Newtownabbey
BT36 7QU
- Independent Examiners:** Tony Clarke
53 Andersonstown Road
Belfast
BT11 9AG
- Status:** **Monkstown Village Initiatives is:**
A Company Limited by Guarantee **(NI063696)**
Approved by the NI Charity Commission June 2015
(Charity number NIC102393)

Recognised as charitable by the Inland Revenue
(Reference number XR29636)

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023**

Structure, governance, management and ethos

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 4th December 2009 as The Care Centre (Monkstown). A name change, to Monkstown Village Initiatives, was registered with Companies House on 1st September 2011 and registered as a charity with HMRC on 17th October 2012. Monkstown Village Initiatives was registered with the Northern Ireland Charity Commission on 1st June 2015. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. Monkstown Village Initiatives is an organisation motivated by Christian principles and values, seeking to embody these through the programmes and services it provides/offers.

In the event of the charity being wound up, members will contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Recruitment and appointment of Directors

- Article 31 (i) Unless otherwise determined by the charity in general meeting, the number of directors shall not be more than 12 or less than 5.
- Article 33 The directors shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) by the members present (in person, or through an authorised representative or by proxy) and also once a year before the AGM one minister from each of Abbey Presbyterian Church, Monkstown Baptist Church and the Church of the Good Shepherd (Monkstown) will be invited to serve as directors for the coming year.
- Article 34 subject to Article (33a & 36) Directors may hold office for a period of 3 years and shall retire in rotation with the longest serving one third to retire at each AGM, or if it is not possible to determine that, then the third to retire shall be determined by drawing lots. On retirement members will be eligible for re-nomination and election.

Subject to Article 35, The Directors shall

- (i) Have the power at any time and from time to time to appoint any person to be a Director to fill a casual vacancy. Any Directors so appointed shall hold office only until the next following Annual General Meeting and shall then be eligible for re-election.
- (ii) Have the power at any time to appoint as additional Directors up to but not exceeding a number equivalent to one third of the elected Directors for the time being. Directors so appointed shall hold office only until the next Annual General Meeting and then be eligible for re-appointment.

All Directors give their time voluntarily and received no benefits from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in the notes of the accounts.

Directors' induction and training

Directors should be familiar with the work of the charity and the community. New Directors are advised of the obligations of Trustees, the Memorandum and Articles of the charity, resourcing, and the current financial position as set out in the latest published accounts, and any future plans and objectives. They are made aware of our policies and procedures which include Child and Vulnerable Adults Protection, Data Protection, Health & Safety Policy and Financial Management.

Risk management

The major risks to which the charity is exposed, are identified and reviewed by the Directors monthly.

Organisational structure

The charity commenced this period with 7 directors and concluded it with 6. One director did not stand for re-election at the Annual General Meeting in November 2022 and therefore was removed from the register at Companies House and with the NI Charities' Commission. The Board of Directors meet regularly and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. All major decisions are undertaken by the

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023 (continued)**

Board, while line management of staff and day to day responsibility for the provision of services rests with the Development Manager of Monkstown Community Forum. The Board are responsible for ensuring that the charity delivers the services specified and that key performance indicators are met.

Purposes and activity

This charity's purposes, as set out in the objects contained in its Memorandum, are for the advancement of education and the protection of health, in the Monkstown area and its environs of Newtownabbey. The aims of this charity are to provide opportunities to address disadvantage. In particular, lowered attainment and poor aspiration. Activities will provide enhanced educational, social and skills outcomes, contributing toward improving the emotional health and well-being of people in Monkstown and the surrounding area. To enable connections, the charity will provide excellent facilities for a range of local groups of different ages and interests. These aims fully reflect the purposes that this charity was set up to further.

We review these aims, objectives and activities each year. This review looks at what has been achieved and the outcomes of the work undertaken in the previous 12 months in order to ensure our aims, objectives and activities remain focused on our stated purposes.

Our main objectives for the year continued to be:

- To deliver mentoring and follow-up drop-ins along with the Educational & Personal Development for young people co-operating with the local schools and in-centre;
- To provide mental health therapy, support and education to the local community;
- To deliver our StressBEAT programmes in the local schools;
- To grow our Flourish group, a mental health and wellbeing group for over 60s; and
- To continue to transform the Community Garden, at the rear of Monkstown Village Centre, to be used by the community, local schools, community groups and individuals.

Monkstown Village Initiatives (MVI) held its Annual General Meeting for to the period 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022, at 7.00pm on Monday 21st November 2022 in Monkstown Village Centre.

MVI 5-year strategic plan update

This strategy maps out how MVI will seek to develop community infrastructure across Monkstown and surrounding areas. Feedback is encouraged by directors and staff and an action plan based on High Level Outcomes agreed. A Strategy Review was carried out on the 18th January 2020 with discussion based on excellent presentations from staff.

Directors' meetings

There were 8 directors' meetings held during the year. The last meeting of this period was on 10th March.

Monkstown Village Initiatives continues as a member of Monkstown Community Forum and has an historic and fruitful strategic partnership with that organisation.

Reviews

- Reviews of MVI policies and financial procedures and changes are carried out on a routine basis.
- The MVI Policies and procedures regarding General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) was adopted in May 2018.
- Risk assessments are carried out for all activities when necessary and reviewed yearly.
- MVI Child Protection Policy is up to date. Colin Barr is the MVI designated person and Susan Hamilton the Board's designated person. Police checks for all staff and volunteers has been obtained.
- Public liability insurance is £10m.

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023 (continued)**

Finance

This year Monkstown Village Initiatives had a deficit of £8,871. Monkstown Community Forum makes contributions toward MVI's Youth Works, Gardening and re:think/re:act projects.

The Directors have examined the charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. A reserve of £20,000 has been set aside to protect the charity's work in event of a shortfall in income and to plan for a minimum of two months' continuity should major funding streams cease.

Homecare's license with Monkstown Village Initiatives was not renewed and so their use of the building concluded at the end of November 2022. Their monthly payments however continued and to that end £1,800 was returned to Homecare in April 2023.

Membership

The company currently has 31 members.

Staff

- Alan Johnston manages MVI facilities, projects and staff as part of his duties as Development Manager in Monkstown Village Centre.
- Deborah Smyth continues as part-time Caretaker/Cleaner for the community accommodation.
- RoseAnne (Rosie) Donnelly is employed, full-time, as a Cognitive Behavioural Therapist in the re:think/re:act service.
- Colin Barr is employed, full-time, as a senior youth worker. A monthly contribution for this post is received from Monkstown Community Forum.
- Robyn Harris is employed 20 hours per week as a part-time youth worker. (Robyn will go on maternity leave at the end of April and plans to return in March 2024. A monthly contribution for this post is received from Monkstown Community Forum.
- Bryan Scroggie, Jodie McCord and Ben Thompson are currently sessional youth workers with MVI Youthworks.
- Margaret Connolly was employed part-time as Garden Manager/Grower. She retired at the end of this reporting period (31st March) and the post was continued with the employment of Aine Gilchrist. A monthly contribution for this post is received from Monkstown Community Forum.
- Roy Millar, of Monkstown Community Forum, is paid to provide gardening support, in Monkstown Village Centre and other sites, where necessary.

Pensions are set up with NEST (National Employment Savings Trust) for those for whom it is a statutory requirement.

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023 (continued)**

Public Benefit to the community

To ensure compliance of Public Benefit, we have a policy of open and inclusive access to MVI's accommodation and programmes.

Purpose (1) *'To involve young people (9-25yr olds) in discovering and living out their full potential and to develop supportive initiatives.'*

MVI Youth Works

Youth Club

Once again, we have had a great year at youth club. We have had a record number of children wanting to be part of the club, with 60 children registered. And yes, not all those children turn up each week, and some of those only came for a couple of weeks. On a weekly basis we would have around 35-40 children over the 2 sessions that we still run. Which, again when I think back to the beginning of my time here is a massive increase.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank the staff/volunteers for their commitment each week and the efforts they make towards making the evening a great time for the children who attend.

Each week takes a similar format with computer games, pool, table football, air hockey, tuck-shop and a wide variety of board and card games to entertain. To add some variety, we put on a special activity, which rotates around, art, craft, baking and then the special nights were we either forgo the technology and all play board games, St Patrick's beetle drive, laser tag and pizza with Parents and the Peelers. The pizza night was an opportunity for us and the community police to get to know the parents and to share with them some key points from a community perspective of the need for parental support and encourage good behaviour and attitude. We look forward to hopefully running the same next year.

We were also pleased to be awarded funding from James Brown & Sons Funeral Directors under their community grant to the value of £1000. This was given for the purchasing of new air hockey and football tables. These were a great hit straight away, especially with the lights and sound of the air hockey table.

IMPACT Girls Group

This has been a great 1st year for the girls' group, they have covered a very varied program, ranging from an open session of games and chat through to having visiting speakers from Made For More, Action Mental Health and Ascertain Targeted Life Skills. Over the year the girls have looked in depth at the need to maintain a good level of mental health and the reasons behind things not going so well with our mental health. One of the highlights seems to have been from their afternoon of relaxation and self-regulating session. A comment from a parent was 'could they do this every week?', as her daughter was so much calmer.

It was great to have the support of Abbey Presbyterian's Community Evangelist, Michaela Tuccillo, throughout the year. Next year we will hopefully have her support again, also we will have Connie Bamford on the team by then.

Junior Youth Challenge

Another very enjoyable year at JYC. Although numbers are not the mark of success, it was great to see them staying up in the teens again. It was also great to see several young people from the surrounding homes coming to join us. By the end of the year some of the regular young people had decided to stop coming, and it seemed that the behaviour and attitude of local children didn't fit in with their idea of what they wanted from JYC. Hopefully next year we can encourage them back again and if we can get the local kids back, they may develop a better understanding 'acceptable' behaviour.

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023 (continued)**

This year our topic was God's Way – The Way to God, Living God's Way and a Final Challenge. Our most interesting night was when we (Phil Agnew) were to take the talk on having a 'Quiet Time', reading the Bible, spending time in prayer, listening to God. That night not too many of the children who we would have expected turned up, but 6 to 10 children came who probably had no idea of what the term meant. Very quickly we re-jigged and spoke about the benefits of reading the Bible and why we pray. The look on Phil's face at the start explained so much more.

Mentoring

This year saw us continue mentoring in Hollybank Primary School using the Transforming Lives for Good (TLG) model and in Abbey Community College. Along with our team of core mentors (Bryan, Colin and Robyn), we were joined by Alan Johnston (Glenabbey), Gary Huntley (COGS), Jenna Goodman (Ballycraig Congregational). As usual when it comes to getting access to schools there are the normal checks to be completed. Some of these taking longer than others. Gary Huntley unfortunately had issues with getting his application passed and before he was cleared, he had moved post within his company and therefore was no longer available to help.

It has been a wide selection of students from Abbey Community College that have been referred and some have been kept on longer than the usual 6-week sessions. Also, with number of referrals for Y8 & 9 girls increasing, we tried to encourage the year heads to consider sending the girls they felt would benefit from friendship support along to Impact Girls' Group.

Regular space is a challenge within Hollybank PS. If it continues that there is not enough space for everyone who is coming in to help pupils in mainstream classes, our level of service will need to be reviewed.

Learning Hub

This year at Learning Hub, we have noticed quite a significant lack in ability in students across all year groups. Even though we are not aiming to make academics out of them, it is quite hard to try and cover topics like: time, angles and addition/subtraction when there seems to be such a gap in their learning.

We have had plenty of opportunity to provide experiences that the children possibly would never get. We were able to avail of an artist (Trisha) from Play Resource, for a few weeks, and as always, the kids love the better ideas that a proper artist come up with.

It is always good to try and push the kids to try something that may not be their thing. We invited a drama company called 'Play it by Ear' to come and to put them through their paces. This was an enjoyable 4 weeks for both the leaders and the kids. It was nice to see them starting to feel less embarrassed when being silly or acting out and being increasingly able to work together as a group.

We also continue to take opportunity to encourage the children to consider the environment that they live in through doing litter picks twice a year. These times always show the enthusiasm that the children have to make a difference in their community.

Summer Scheme

Funding 2022 scheme came largely from an EA grant. This year saw us take on an animal theme for two weeks. Two of our trips saw us going to Belfast Zoo and The Ark Open Farm, Conlig. What a variety of animals to see, from elephants, giraffes, rhinos, gorillas to rabbits, goats, ducks, dinosaurs and even reindeer (whose hooves make a clicking noise as they walk). Two brilliant days and lots of fun for all. We also had a visit from a local animal expert, Wee Critters, which allowed the children to get up close and personal with some wonderful animals. It tested some nerves to see, cockroaches, giant toads, parrots, barn owls and a very friendly tarantula. A wonderful experience for all. We also took full advantage of our community garden and

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023 (continued)**

even savoured some of the wonderful produce grown by Margaret and the team and it was good to even get the children to taste and enjoy the soup. The weather was in our favour at the end of the 2 weeks for what will have to be an annual event. We had permission from Abbey Presbyterian Church to use their car park for a water fight, which Alan Carson even found the time to join in with. Not sure who had the most fun, leaders or kids but everyone was well soaked by the end.

SPARK Newtownabbey

This was our first year back after the setback of Covid restrictions and we were unsure how things would go and who would be part of the team. Our concerns were purely human as God had everything pre-planned and all worked out throughout the week. We had a team of 38 from a variety of churches from around Newtownabbey. As with other years we took on the jobs of gardening and general clean-up of the area, alongside this we ran a 5-day club in the Church of the Good Shepherd and used the facilities at Monkstown Pavilion to play sports with a great group of young people. Each event was focused with sharing the gospel in as many ways and with as many people as possible. The evening time was spent working alongside the teenagers of the area and again sharing with them why we believe what we believe and why we feel these events are vital to God's great commission.

We finished the week off with a family fun night held at the Church of the Good Shepherd. We had bouncy castle, slides, wrecking ball, face paints, balloons, tattoos, food van and ice-cream van. It was a great opportunity to get to talk to some of the parents of children that we had had the pleasure of working with.
Summer activities

Staffing

We will have a few changes within the Youth Works staff. Robyn will leave at the end of April to have her second baby (Sofia was born in May). We have been successful, this time, in appointing a maternity cover for this position. Connie Bamford will be joining us later in the year (July, onwards) to help with most of Robyn's tasks and to take some of the other daily responsibilities. I will be taking over as coordinator for TLG for the rest of 2023 and part of 2024 until Robyn returns.

As part of my role transition, we have appointed Ben Thompson as a youth worker, which allows me to hand over part of the organisation of activities to others in the team.

Alongside those who have come on board to be part of the TLG mentoring, we have to say a big thank you to Bryan and Jodie for their continued support and enthusiasm here in the Youth Works department. Jodie has been working extremely hard with her university course, and still manages to maintain the commitment she has shown from day one. Bryan continues to be a sounding board whenever some things just don't seem to be fitting and his experience is always very worth listening to.

It was great to be able to have a couple of extra helpers along during our Easter scheme. We had 25 children signed up and the 3 extra bodies definitely made a difference to the smooth running of all the activities. So, thanks again to Caitlin Coid, Mark Hegarty and Valerie Brown for their support.

Thank you all for your support and interest which you show in the youth work within Monkstown Village Initiatives.

Bryan, Ben, Jodie, Robyn and Colin

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023 (continued)**

Monkstown Village Garden

This was to be Margaret's final year with us. She concluded employment with Monkstown Village Initiatives, after five years, at the end of this period (March 2023). We wish her well and hope to see her regularly, as a volunteer. Aine Gilchrist joined the project in a part-time capacity during March 2023 to ensure a smooth hand-over. Previously Aine had been a volunteer in the garden.

The year started with filling the polytunnel beds with tomato and courgette plants and rotavating the area to the back of the large polytunnel to sow cut flowers and more vegetables.

Volunteers

Duke of Edinburgh volunteers (Scarlett, Ben, Toby and Darcia) were facilitated during the year. Regular Monday morning volunteers are George, Hug, Andrea, Margaret and Ron. These are usually joined by others on an occasional basis. There is also a consistent volunteer group meeting on a Monday evening during the March to October period. Volunteers enjoyed a coffee morning at Creative Gardens during July and purchased a stone seat, bird bath and sun dial with our prize money from the Garden Ireland event (see below)! The Cedar Foundation have been able to place a few of their clients with us during the year. A contact in the Northern Trust resulted in a lady from Thailand now regularly volunteering. George has made (and enabled other volunteers to make) planter and flower boxes production for the garden programmes along with picnic tables and other garden items. A community work day, to help fill our new raised beds with soil/compost, was well supported.

Networking/Partnerships

Meeting with Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council (A&NBC) Tackling Deprivation Co-ordinator.

Attended Climate Clever Communities Summit.

Attended Food for Thought webinar.

A Rocha (UK) conversations initiated for what would lead to a partnership arrangement in 2023.

Local walking groups start to call into the garden area.

Organised a garden-related activity for the Church of the Good Shepherd Fun Day in August and craft activities for their Thursday morning group during the Autumn.

Some newcomer/asylum-seekers have enjoyed short-term volunteering in the garden.

Various volunteer group events were held in the run-up to Christmas both during the day and in the evening.

Belfast Live covered the garden as a result of publicity from the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) Community Involvement Grant (see below).

Attended a Healthy Lifestyle programme organised by A&NBC and hosted at Monkstown Village Centre.

Grants

A&NBC, Queen's Platinum Jubilee event (A&NBC grant made to MCF, delivered in the garden area).

Enkalon Foundation Team Challenge grant.

Belfast Harbour Community Award, completed.

Community Involvement Grant from NIHE to 'grow' a Market Garden area behind the polytunnel. George and Hugh made these raised beds and added climbing frames onto the beds, giving additional growing space. (Grant made to Monkstown Community Forum and delivered in the garden area.)

Soil Association grant for food-related project with Hollybank Primary School.

Monkstown Community Forum provides funding for the employment of the Garden Manager.

Training

Online courses from Groundwork and Meet the Funder.

Online course 'My Food Community', a programme running for five months, four hours each week.

Training organised on how to look after fruit trees, in partnership with Social Farms & Gardens.

Cook and Share, Action Learning, Food Citizenship, Food for our Planet and Big Lunch networking were attended during the Autumn/Winter period.

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023 (continued)**

Events

A four-week GROW course for SureStart mums in May was organised. There was very positive feedback about the Garden area and the facilitation of the programme.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee was marked in the polytunnel with knitted flags, made by the Knit & Knatter group at Monkstown Jubilee Centre, afternoon tea and a commemorative etched vase 'craft'.

MVI's Flourish programme met for cheese and biscuits during the Summer.

Two workshops during July and August as part of MVI Youth Works summer programme along with a 'Grow it, Eat it' facilitated during the Autumn months.

Christmas events, were organised in the run-up to Christmas.

A Mother's Day event and a further outreach event at the Church of the Good Shepherd were organised along with an Easter Fun Day for children.

Awards

First prize for our hobbit garden at Ireland Garden Show in Antrim Castle Gardens, where we were awarded a beautiful trophy and £600 in vouchers to spend in Creative Gardens. The hobbit house has found a home in the wildlife section of the garden.

Green Flag award was received at the end of July marked by a visit from the Mayor of A&NBC, Stephen Ross and the Parks Development Officer to commend the work that has been carried out in the garden.

Purpose (2) *'To provide a modern, comfortable and inviting meeting place at the centre of the Monkstown Community.'*

Accommodation

MVI holds a 900+ year lease for the accommodation on a significant portion of the first floor of Monkstown Village Centre. This accommodation includes Meeting Rooms 1, 2 & 3; Kitchen; Youth Area and Resource Rooms 1 & 2. This is managed by Alan Johnston (Development Manager, Monkstown Village Centre).

Licensees and other users

Abbey SureStart use MVI's Upper Rooms, under license, on a daily basis. They have been with us since moving into the building in 2007. Homecare Independent Living who were also long-term license-holders, moved premises during November 2022. Newtownabbey Pilates, another long-term 'tenant', occupies one of the rooms on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings. St John Ambulance (NI) is under license for Tuesday night for their Cadet programme and selected weekends for training. A knitting group has developed since lockdown and meets on a Wednesday evening. A scrapbooking group along with Junior Youth Challenge meet on a Thursday evening along with Senior Youth Challenge meeting monthly on a Saturday evening. Ad hoc/regular users complete this vital source of income for Monkstown Village Initiatives.

The re:think/re:act project has been using the boardroom for its sessions since re-engaging face-to-face with clients.

During the summer months, MVI partnered with Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council to provide a School Uniform Re-Use scheme. Uniform donations were received during July and distributed during August. Thanks to Irena and Susan who were involved from start to finish. It is anticipated that this scheme will run again in the summer of 2023.

Thank you to facilities' staff and volunteers, in particular, Dorothy Robinson, who has regularly closed up the building, at the end of evening programmes, for a number of years. Debbie Smyth opens and closes at other times, keeping the community space and offices clean, tidy and smelling great! David Graham and Roy Millar (Forum staff) assist with room preparation and clearance.

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023 (continued)**

We aim to ensure all people feel welcome. Accommodation has been found to be excellent by our users, and our facilities show a high level of demand from business, statutory, leisure, fitness, health and care-providing organisations.

A Premises grant was received from Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council during the 2022-2023 year. An application, for three years, was made to A&NBC for Facilities, Garden, re:think and Youth Works projects

Purpose (3) *'To develop and provide mental health promotion and support programmes.'*

re:think/re:act (Cognitive Behavioural Therapy Service)

This past year has just flown by. Maybe I'm getting old, but it doesn't seem like twelve months since I was writing an end of year report or perhaps it reflects how busy this year has been! The world has opened up again and Covid almost feels like a bad dream. I say almost because within the various MVI projects and re:think in particular we are still dealing with many of the long-term effects of the pandemic.

1-to-1 CBT sessions continue to make up the bulk of my week. I have had the privilege of working alongside a number of folk ranging in age from 13-67 who have been experiencing difficulties with their mental health. Over the past year there has been an increase in the number of young people referred to the project most of whom are dealing with anxiety-based disorders; either caused by or exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic. One of the biggest joys in my job is seeing any client, but especially a young person, learn how to manage anxiety and regain their enthusiasm for life and hope for the future.

Unfortunately, the one problem, challenge, downside of this year has been the ongoing issue of funding. Due to the legacy of Covid and the current economic crisis we have struggled to secure the finance necessary to cover the cost of individual CBT sessions. This has meant that we have had to make changes to how the service operates. In the past we were able to offer therapy free at the point of delivery. Adult clients were made aware that MVI is a charity, and some chose to donate to offset the expense of their treatment. As of January 2023, all new clients will be asked to make a regular contribution toward the costs of their therapy. The amount will be decided by the client and based on what they feel above to afford.

Once local schools began opening their doors to visitors again, I was able to deliver a Stress BEAT programme in Hollybank Primary School. Because it was near the end of the school year, we had to do a truncated version, but it was great to be back out in the community again. I also facilitated an abridged version of Stress BEAT in Newtownabbey Educational Guidance Centre as well as a one-off wellbeing workshop for the New Dawn group in Monkstown Baptist church.

It has been a real delight for me this year to be able to facilitate our over 60s group, Flourish, back in its regular monthly slot. I have been ably assisted each month by our volunteer Dot who is very enthusiastic and has a real passion for ensuring that retired folk get all the help and support that they are entitled to. Over the year we organised a variety of speakers and activities all of which were loosely based around the 5 Steps to Wellbeing. Flourish has a membership of approximately 40 and each month we have about 20 attendees. Our members are a lovely, friendly bunch who are always appreciative of whatever activity we organise however I think the highlight for everyone was the special Christmas event. Thanks to some funding from A&NBC we were able to host a delicious afternoon tea catered by Sarah from Ten Coffee Shop served on traditional china cups and saucers borrowed from Monkstown Baptist Church. In addition, we had a Christmas themed quiz and sang some well-known songs and carols thanks to a musical accompaniment from Dr Natalie Montgomery. I am grateful to Dot, all our speakers and everyone who made Flourish possible this past year.

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023 (continued)**

During the first lockdown I began a Facebook page called Keep Calm and Boost Your Wellbeing. In order to prevent people trying to sell or advertise on the site I had to set it up as a private page, but it is open to anyone who requests admittance. I have kept this going as it has proved a useful way of disseminating information and resources to those interested in looking after their mental wellbeing.

Thank you for taking the time to read this report. If you would like to know more about any of the services offered by the re:think/re:act project please do not hesitate to contact me.

Rosie

(Some funding for 1-to-1 CBT, and the Flourish and Stress BEAT programmes came through Monkstown Community Forum's Mosaic Project, an Areas at Risk programme from Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council/Department for Communities. The Service also benefitted through the purchase of client sessions by Monkstown Community Forum on behalf of the Monkstown community.

Organisation-wide funding information

Monkstown Village Initiatives are engaged to deliver programmes within Monkstown Community Forum's Mosaic Project through its Youthworks, rethink/react (including Flourish) and gardening departments. Mosaic is an Areas at Risk project funded by A&NBC and the Department for Communities. This continued up to 31st March 2023.

Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council (A&NBC) funding was received in the form of Premises Grant during this period.

Glenabbey (Church) contribute financially (monthly) to the ongoing work of Monkstown Village Initiatives and some of its members have been involved in volunteering roles, mostly within MVI Youthworks.

Using Stewardship.org we offer a facility to receive gifts and donations through the MVI website.

Plans for the future

The charity intends to continue the activities outlined above in the future. The Directors and staff are mindful of the challenging times we are in and will continue to review/assess opportunities which will further the charity's goals of: addressing educational underachievement, mental health issues and encouraging people to make connections with each other.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors for the purposes of Company Law) are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of outgoing resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is not appropriate to assume that the charity will continue on that basis.

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023 (continued)**

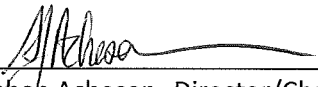
The Directors are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement of disclosure of information to Independent Examiners

We, the Trustees of the charity who held office at the date of approval of these Financial Statements, as set out above, each confirm so far as we are aware that:

- there is no relevant information of which the charity's independent examiners are unaware; and
- we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken as Trustees in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the charity's independent examiners are aware of that information.

The Board of Directors approved this report on 26th October 2023



Stephen Acheson, Director/Chair
Company Registration Number: NI06396

Monkstown Village Initiatives

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102393

Annual return

MONKSTOWN VILLAGE INITIATIVES LIMITED

Independent Examiner's Report

To the charity trustees of Monkstown Village Initiatives Limited

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2023, which are set out on pages 16 to 27.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees, who are also the directors of Monkstown Village Initiatives for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under part 16 of the Companies Act 2006, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

1. examine the accounts under section 65 of the 2008 Act;
2. follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act; and
3. 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 for Northern Ireland. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the financial statements present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

Independent Examiner's statement

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

- (a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - (i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - (ii) to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities;have not been met; or
- (b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Signed



Date

8/11/23

Tony Clarke FCPA
53 Andersonstown Road
Belfast
BT11 9AG