



**CARRICKFERGUS
COMMUNITY
CULTIVATORS**

NIC 102635

M:+4477 0827 3967

www.carrickcultivators.co.uk

Email: info@carrickcultivators.co.

**42 Beltoy Road
Carrickfergus
Co. Antrim
BT36 9BH**

CARRICKFERGUS COMMUNITY CULTIVATORS **Trustees Report for Year Ending April 2019**

Introduction

This is the annual report from the trustees of Carrick Community Cultivators (NIC: 103635) for the financial year 1as April 2017 to 31 MARCH 2019

Carrickfergus Community Cultivators is governed by its Constitution which is attached following this section of the report and dates from 2013. As can be seen from this the group is a volunteer organisation (as opposed to a voluntary organisation) and does not have paid staff. As such the management committee appoints three Trustees each year to organise information, deal with any legal statutory matters and report such activity to the management committee for approval

We have due regard for the guidance given by the Charity Commission N.I. and other sources are of the view that the group is operating with appropriate compliance with its requirements as a Registered Charity

Purpose of the Charity & Public Benefits

Purpose

The group has four principal purposes in line with the Aims and Objectives of its Constitution. These are as follows:-

- i. Social Horticultural & Environmental awareness and support the purpose of which is to create enhanced community cohesion. The public benefit of this is to promote an increasingly self-supporting local society evidenced from the growing numbers of grow your own and group gardening projects year on year.
- ii. Food Poverty and Community Health Support where the purpose of this activity is to use Social Agriculture to communally produce low cost and healthy food services to support people in food poverty, especially those who are at general

- health risk through poor diet. The public benefit from this is to reduce local levels of food poverty and public health issues arising from poor nutrition.
- iii. Volunteering is a core purpose of our group, where we seek to develop and encourage the incentives and enjoyment for local people to provide volunteer services. In this context, as explained above, we have established ourselves as a volunteer (as opposed to a voluntary) organisation as we believe the employment of paid staff can undermine and distract from the purpose and direction of charitable organisations. To help fully realise this purpose and allow as full an ownership of the group by the volunteer members those volunteering establish themselves as self-organising clusters built around a social gardening framework. The public benefit arising from this purpose is to support and encourage the social enhancement of local community capacity.
 - iv. Community Development and Education is a more general and diffuse purpose for the group and flows from the perusal of the other purposes described above but nevertheless is an important theme and value in all the group's activities. We work on the basis that people are social animals and benefit from social interaction. The public benefit from this purpose is we hope therefore self-evident and its practical working out can be seen in all of the group's activities.

Other than coincidental and/or accidental circumstances we have not evidenced any private benefits arising in any of these areas of activity.

Activities and Achievements During the Past Year

We have continued this year with our usual support and advice activities particularly in helping and encouraging people to get involved in social horticulture through volunteering to help improve their health and wellbeing.

New areas of work have included:

- Establishing a seed bank
- Involvement with the Tree Charter Initiative to help support structured outdoor activities.
- Workshop teaching on local Wild Flowers such as a survey of the Castle rock face.
- Expanding our propagation group work to provide indoor plants for housebound people.

We look forward to expanding the above work in the coming year and further explore the use of our activities in helping to advise and support individuals in the community.

Austin Herron

(Convenor)

For and on behalf of the Groups Trustees.