

Carson Project

Northern Ireland · Charity number 102843

Details

Status Overdue

Registered 2016-01-28

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

Contact

Address 176 Queen Street
Ballymena
County Antrim
176 Queen Street
Ballymena
BT42 2bq
BT42 2BQ

Phone 07500334331

Activities

Purposes: Purpose 1 To promote for the benefit of the public in Northern Ireland education in the preservation of public order, the provision of services for mediation and conciliation between people, organisations and groups who are involved in disputes or interpersonal conflicts where that dispute or conflict results from or may lead to acts of nuisance, vandalism, sectarian or racial abuse or breach of the peace Purpose 2 The promotion of equality and diversity for the public benefit by (a) promoting activities to foster understanding between people from diverse religious, racial and political backgrounds; (b) cultivating a sentiment in favour of equality and diversity. Purpose 3 To advance the education of the public in the history of Northern Ireland and Ireland to increase a better understanding of our shared history Purpose 4 To develop the capacity and skills of the members of the socially and economically disadvantaged community of Ballymena in such a way that they are better able to identify, and help meet, their needs and to participate more fully in society

What the charity does: The advancement of education, The advancement of citizenship or community development, The advancement of human rights, conflict resolution or reconciliation or the promotion of religious or racial harmony or equality and diversity

How the charity works: Community development, Cultural, Education/training, Heritage/historical, Volunteer development

Who the charity helps: Adult training, Community safety/crime prevention, Ex-offenders and prisoners, General public, Unemployed/low income, Women

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-03-31	£49,149	£75,614	£0	1

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Miss Kim Berry		
Mr Colin Graham		
Mr Rodney Quigley		

Carson Project

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102843

Accounts

THE CARSON PROJECT

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE CHARITY TRUSTEES OF THE CARSON PROJECT

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on the attached page.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF CHARITY TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 65 of the Charities Act
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the commission under Section 65(9)b of the Charities Act
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I have examined your charity accounts as required under Section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under Section 65(9) of the Charities Act.

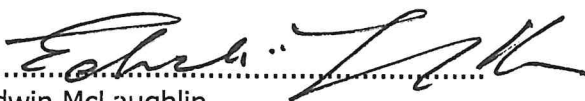
My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 63 of the Charities Act.
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.


.....
Edwin McLaughlin
Chartered Accountant

51-53 Thomas Street, Ballymena, BT43 6AZ

Dated: 07/08/2025

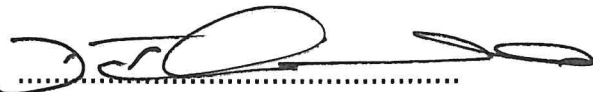
THE CARSON PROJECT

176 QUEEN STREET, BALLYMENA, CO ANTRIM, BT42 2BQ

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
<u>INCOME</u>				
Awards for All		10,000		0
St Stephen's Green Trust		0		29,988
Groundwork		0		375
International Fund		985		47,737
Social Change		3,189		0
Mid & East Antrim Council		2,350		500
Halifax Foundation		0		500
Sundries		860		93
Community Foundation Grant		0		3,000
Choice housing		31,045		2,320
Ulidia training		720		0
		<u>49,149</u>		<u>84,513</u>
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>				
Staff Costs	22,905		52,160	
Rent	6,050		6,000	
Heat & Light	474		791	
Programme Costs	36,091		21,912	
Postage & Stationery	1,010		1,544	
Telephone	675		644	
General Expenses	1,564		2,434	
Travelling	6,643		4,922	
Insurance	597		557	
Water Rates	85		154	
Repairs	520		857	
		<u>76,614</u>		<u>91,975</u>
Deficit		<u>(27,465)</u>		<u>(7,462)</u>
Opening bank balance		35,689		43,151
(Deficit) for period		(27,465)		(7,462)
Closing bank balance		<u>8,224</u>		<u>35,689</u>

We hereby certify that the above Income and Expenditure Account is in accordance with the books and information supplied.

Signed 
.....
DT Carson & Co

Dated

Carson Project

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102843

Accounts

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

	£	£
<u>INCOME</u>		
Awards for All		10,000
St Stephen's Green Trust		18,394
Groundwork		1,125
International Fund		34,731
PEARS		4,977
Maurice Healy Social Justice Fund		15,000
Comic Relief		23,622
Mid & East Antrim Council		1,686
Halifax Foundation		4,000
Sundries		95
		<u>113,630</u>
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
Staff Costs	41,040	
Rent	6,000	
Heat & Light	358	
Programme Costs	17,438	
Postage & Stationery	449	
Telephone	401	
General Expenses	1,692	
Travelling	770	
Insurance	295	
Water Rates	155	
Repairs	9,935	
Celebration Event	2,441	
		<u>80,974</u>
Surplus		<u><u>32,656</u></u>
Opening bank balance		10,495
Surplus for period		32,656
Closing bank balance		<u><u>43,151</u></u>

We hereby certify that the above Income and Expenditure Account is in accordance with the books and information supplied.

Signed


DT Carson & Co

Dated 27 February 2023

Carson Project

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102843

Annual report

Charity Number 102843

THE CARSON PROJECT

Trustees

- Jim Finlay – Chairperson
- Kim Berry -Secretary
- Rodney Quigley – Treasurer

Volunteers

Jimmy Patterson
Geordie Houston
Roberta Anderson
William Foster
Mark Rainey
Ann Gibson

Background to the Organisation

Our organisation is made up of ex-combatants and community activists. We are heavily involved in community issues and passionate in ensuring a peaceful community for all. We have been involved in ground-breaking inter-community work with members of the Catholic Nationalist Republican community to help all better understand the causes of conflict and how to reduce the conditions of conflict. We have also organised and facilitated various education courses not only providing vocational qualifications but education regarding history, culture and identity. Parading in Northern Ireland and the display of flags and emblems have at times been a contentious issue in the community and at times this has led to disorder and community discord. Carson Project members have been involved in stewarding parades in the greater Ballymena area and have also been involved in issues regarding flags and emblems to provide a safe environment for all. Carson Project members are actively involved in providing a better environment for the community we work in. This can include organising and participating in community clean-ups and upgrading the built and natural environment. The Carson Project continues to interact and lobby with statutory and non-statutory agencies to improve conditions for our community

Purposes of the Organisation

Purpose One: Conflict Resolution . The direct benefits which flow from the purposes include education on the deep roots of conflict that lead to violence, with approaches, methodologies and resources to address and deal with conflict and violence within and between communities, build relationships and reconcile divided communities, networking opportunities for individuals or groups to meet with other minority or socially minded groups and support to organisations providing awareness-raising and education in all matters of diversity. The purpose which flows includes increased participation, in activities and events to ensure the attainment of the community to increase their skill, social interaction, improvement in mental and physical health. The benefits are demonstrated through oral and written feedback from participants, independent evaluation, reflection and feedback by facilitators of respective programmes and other organisations. In providing training, there is a risk of triggering unresolved issues and hurts from those impacted directly by violence. However, programmes allow for the opportunity to deal with such hurts safely and in a safe environment, and as such the benefits far outweigh any potential harm.

Purpose Two: Advancement in education for the Community of Ballymena and surrounding areas. The benefit which flows from this purpose includes seeking funding for resources and courses for the group to reach out the community inhabitants and build essential links. This is demonstrated through having an active community development group that works in partnership with the community and other bodies. The public benefit will be the empowerment of residents to improve their living conditions, enhanced knowledge and understanding to all in the area through receiving an education and training in first aid, child protection, environmental issues, cultural awareness, committee skills, suicide and drug awareness, youth and enhancement of the young community inhabitants, increased volunteering opportunities and new skills to improve employment opportunities. The benefits are demonstrated through the results achieved, regular feedback from those and evaluation of the services provided. This purpose does

not lead to harm. The benefit is for the community of the Greater Ballymena area and its environs, specifically those who have or will attend the courses on offer.

Purpose Three: Culture and Heritage The direct benefits which flow from this purpose include the promotion and of the history, culture, musical and marching heritage of the Ulster tradition to the community of the Greater Ballymena area, its environs and the general public. The benefit which flows from this purpose is culture validity. This is demonstrated through sharing experiences and stories with others, learning through factual education about historical topics, engendering a sense of belonging whilst confirming validity of their culture and how it contributes to their community. These benefits are evidenced through participants and members of the public who make use of our services. The purpose does not lead to harm.

The year 202 has again be an extremely busy and challenging year again for staff and volunteers with concerns over the Protocol, political uncertainty, the recession and the effects of the war in the Ukraine. Despite this the Carson Project has continued to strive to deliver an effective and meaningful service to our community.

We currently have 3 employees due to securing funding. Peace Impact Programme funded by International Fund for Ireland and administered by Community Foundation Northern Ireland and funding from Saint Stephen's Green Trust.

Personnel employed by the Carson Project are as follows: Jim McIlroy – Programme Manager Cyril Rainey- Outreach Worker and Ronda Rainey – Finance and Administration

The Carson Project has continued to work within the community addressing the needs of the most marginalised and disadvantaged members of our community.

The Carson Project has worked closely with Mid and East Antrim council officials and non-statutory agencies in a number of fields to promote good relations. The Carson Project has also developed relationships with groups across Northern Ireland.

The Carson Project has continues to deliver a number of events within the reporting period to promote greater understanding of historical and cultural aspects which shape community members identity, beliefs and values.

The Carson Project continues to empower individuals and the wider community to help build vibrant and confident communities.

Carson Project

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102843

Annual return

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

	£	£
<u>INCOME</u>		
Awards for All		10,000
St Stephen's Green Trust		18,394
Groundwork		1,125
International Fund		34,731
PEARS		4,977
Maurice Healy Social Justice Fund		15,000
Comic Relief		23,622
Mid & East Antrim Council		1,686
Halifax Foundation		4,000
Sundries		95
		<u>113,630</u>
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
Staff Costs	41,040	
Rent	6,000	
Heat & Light	358	
Programme Costs	17,438	
Postage & Stationery	449	
Telephone	401	
General Expenses	1,692	
Travelling	770	
Insurance	295	
Water Rates	155	
Repairs	9,935	
Celebration Event	2,441	
		<u>80,974</u>
Surplus		<u><u>32,656</u></u>
Opening bank balance		10,495
Surplus for period		32,656
Closing bank balance		<u><u>43,151</u></u>

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DT Carson & Co

Dated 27 February 2023

Carson Project

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102843

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Carson Project

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102843

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