
**The Meeting Place (Dunoon) SCIO
Scottish Charity No. SC049769
Annual Report and Financial
Statements for the year ended
31st March, 2025**

Trustees Annual Report

For the year ended 31st March 2025

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report together with the financial statements for the year ended 31st March, 2025.

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name

The Meeting Place (Dunoon)

Charity No. SC049769

Address

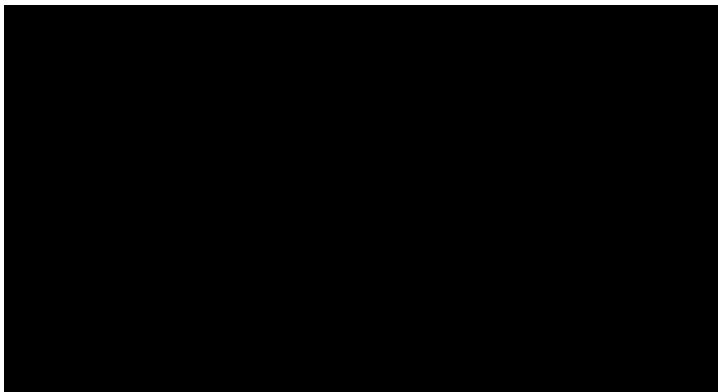
53 Hillfoot Street

Dunoon,

Argyll,

PA23 7DR

Trustees 2024-2025



Very sadly, since the end of the financial year, [REDACTED] died after a short illness on 8.4.25.

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution

The Charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). It was registered in its current legal form on 22nd November, 2019. It has a single tier structure and as such the Trustees are the members of the charity.

Appointment of Trustees

The Board (which normally meets every six weeks), are the charity's Trustees. Members of the Board are appointed by the trustees and are interested parties mostly with lived experience of mental health problems either as a service user or carer, or with relevant professional expertise.

Objectives and Activities Charitable Purposes

To improve the mental wellbeing of people in Cowal and the surrounding areas.

Activities and Performance

Since its inception in 2019 The Meeting Place has focussed on creating a safe and supportive environment for people who identify as having mental wellbeing issues, whether having a formally diagnosed condition, or not. Sessions are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11-3pm and all are on a drop-in basis with no GP referral required.

Average attendance continues to be around 12-15 per session with several more coming to the weekly Singing for Fun group on Tuesday

mornings, and others on an occasional basis. Apart from inhouse sessions, the Meeting Place also funds weekly trips to the local cinema matinees and swimming pool which are much appreciated.

The food share arrangement with the local Co-op for the past couple of years ended because volunteers who collected the surplus foodstuffs moved away from the area. We would like to officially thank both the Co-op and the volunteers for their support during this time. However, food continues to be an important part of the shared experience of participants. We are able to provide tea/coffee and a light lunch at the moment.

Early last year we enjoyed some stained glass and other craft workshops provided by the North Ayrshire Recovery College, based on the CHIME recovery model – Connections, Hope, Identity, Meaning, Empowerment. The college also made a video around their sessions with us which we were able to upload on to our website.

Other activities during the year included two workshops on Reconciliation, particularly around families and neighbours, a clay modelling workshop, a visit to a local farm to feed the lambs in the Spring, an outing to the bowling alley at Braehead before Christmas and a trip to the Sea Life centre at Lomond Shores, all which were very much enjoyed.

In June we had our very successful book launch of the 'Love at the Meeting Place' which contained participants highlighting the positive traits in each other which were very well received by participants themselves but also those who attended and who thought it a very imaginative and encouraging initiative.

Participants and non-participants have continued to benefit from the free counselling offered by the Meeting Place. Anecdotal evidence and counsellor records show that this is having a positive impact on the mental health of clients and their extended families and friends. Poor mental

health is rarely a solo experience. A suicide awareness session was well attended and extremely useful.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Meeting Place depends primarily on grants and donations to fund its activities. Key to our operations is the provision of a safe, warm place where people can meet, chat, eat together and engage in various other activities. The annual cost of renting 53 Hillhead St, together with utilities costs and maintaining a phone line and Broadband, come to rather more than £10,000. In addition, there are other essential outgoings such as premises maintenance and refurbishment (£3,000 this year), TV and music licences, and insurance.

This financial year we were very fortunate in receiving several grants: a repeat grant of £10,571 from the Bank of Scotland Foundation, to be spent on counselling provision and general purposes; a grant from the Robertson Trust of £2,500 for core costs; a 2-year grant of nearly £20,000 from the Community Lottery for rent and utilities; and a grant of £8,000 from the Morrisons Foundation toward improving our space, which we decided to spend on a major kitchen refurbishment.

We also received donations, both small and substantial, to a total of over £3,500, for which we are very grateful.

Although we have been busy spending this income on maintaining welcoming and useful premises, on activities of all sorts, and on offering counselling free to the client, we are over £12,500 in surplus for 2024-25. This doesn't mean we are rich! (some of this is committed to be spent over

the next financial year) – but we in a stable financial position for the time being.

Grant-giving bodies are currently thinking hard about the need for financial stability, especially for small charities which do not have large reserves, and are increasingly offering grants over more than one year, which is far-sighted and very welcome. We will continue to identify such funding opportunities and make applications appropriately.

This year the Treasurer has been extremely ably assisted by an Assistant Treasurer, for which she is very grateful!

We remain optimistic (but never complacent) about our financial position.

FUTURE PLANS

The extremely generous funding from Morrisons to improve community spaces means we are in the process of getting plans to extend our kitchen facilities and is an exciting opportunity to really develop our activities and advertise our facilities as well as hopefully attracting new volunteers.

We are in the process of setting up a website with the aim of making it the default “go-to” place for participants and members of the public to keep informed about day-to-day activities and changes.

Plans are being put in place to develop a Mental Health resource library and some supported reading sessions, led by one of our counsellors. This has been made possible by fundraising and a donation external to the Meeting Place for which we are very grateful.

Suicide Awareness continues to be a very important issue and we aim to explore possible links with a suicide and wellbeing charity in Inverclyde.

We continue to encourage and support each other to attend other community projects, local charities and events.

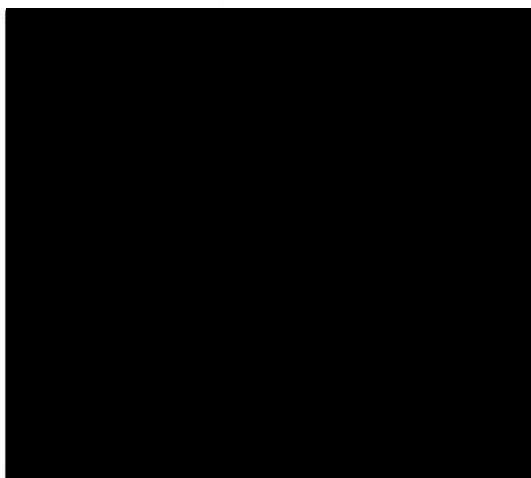
Willing volunteers and peer support continues to provide a much needed, much appreciated and often underestimated or reported community resource. One participant overheard describing the main activity area as “the living room” is a testament to the success we are having in creating a safe, caring space for participants – a home from home.

Statement of balances, as at 31st March 2025
1st April 2024-31st March 2025

| | Note | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Total |
|----------------------------------------------|------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Cash at bank and in hand, 31st March 2024 | | 4,449 | 10,288 | 14,737 |
| Surplus/deficit for current period | | 578 | 12,039 | 12,617 |
| Cash at bank and in hand, 31st March 2025 | | 5,027 | 22,327 | <u>27,354</u> |
| Bank and cash balances | | | | |
| Bank current account | | | | 27,331 |
| Cash in hand | | | | <u>23</u> |
| | | | | <u>27,354</u> |

The notes on pages 10 and 11 form an integral part of these accounts.

Approved by the Trustees on 5th December 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Statement of Receipts and Payments
1st April 2024-31st March 2025
Note 1

| | Note | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Total |
|----------------------------------------------|------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Receipts | | | | |
| Donations | 2 | 3,563 | | 3,563 |
| Grants | 3 | 2,500 | 38,371 | 40,871 |
| Receipts from other charitable activities | 4 | 188 | 192 | 380 |
| Total Receipts | | 6,251 | 38,563 | 44,814 |
| Payments | | | | |
| Cost of charitable activities | 5 | 5,673 | 26,524 | 32,197 |
| Total Payments | | 5,673 | 26,524 | 32,197 |
| Surplus/ (deficit) for current period | | 578 | 12,039 | 12,617 |

1. Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended)

2. Donations received

| | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Total |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Miss A Andrews | | 800 | 800 |
| Small donations (at meetings etc.) | | 753 | 753 |
| Other | | 2,010 | 2,010 |
| Total | | 3,563 | 3,563 |

3. Grants received

| | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Total |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Bank of Scotland Foundation | | 10,571 | 10,571 |
| Robertson Trust | 2,500 | | 2,500 |
| Morrison's Foundation | | 8,000 | 8,000 |
| Community Lottery | | 19,800 | 19,800 |
| Total | 2,500 | 38,371 | 40,871 |

4. Receipts from other charitable activities

| | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Total |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|------------|
| Fund raising | 188 | | 188 |
| Participant payments towards activities (ret to CMHWB restricted fund) | | 192 | 192 |
| Total | 188 | 192 | 380 |

5. Cost of charitable activities

| | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Total |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Premises rent and utilities | | 9,559 | 9,559 |
| Premises maintenance etc | 1,994 | 1,086 | 3,080 |
| Phone, Broadband | 737 | | 737 |
| Publicity | 88 | | 88 |
| TV and music licences | 818 | | 818 |
| Insurance | 683 | | 683 |
| Counselling | | 7,120 | 7,120 |
| Grants from discretionary fund | 120 | | 120 |
| Refreshments | 472 | | 472 |
| Activities | | 3,252 | 3,252 |
| Governance costs | 130 | | 130 |
| Trustee payments | 70 | 168 | 238 |
| Fundraising | 44 | | 44 |
| Kitchen refurbishment | | 5,097 | 5,097 |
| Other | 517 | 242 | 759 |
| | 5,673 | 26,524 | 32,197 |

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Analysis of restricted funds
1st April 2024-31st March 2025

| Fund | Community Lottery Fund | Bank of Scotland Foundation | Bank of Scotland Foundation repeat grant | Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund - | Suicide/ bereavement | Morrison's Foundation (enhancing community spaces) Kitchen refurbishment | Total |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Use | 2 yrs rent and utilities | Counselling - remainder of grant repurposed for general purposes | Counselling and general purposes | Activities | | | |
| Balance 31st March 2024 | | 4,652 | | 4,971 | 665 | | 10,288 |
| Receipts | | | | | | | |
| Grants | 19,800 | | 10,571 | | | 8,000 | 38,371 |
| | 19,800 | 4,652 | 10,571 | 4,971 | 665 | 8,000 | 48,659 |
| Payments | | | | | | | |
| rent | 7,500 | | | | | | 7,500 |
| utilities | 2,059 | | | | | | 2,059 |
| counselling fees | | 3,324 | 3,796 | | | | 7,120 |
| refurbishment of counselling room and contribution to decoration main room | | 1,328 | | | | | 1,328 |
| Activities | | | | 3,060 | | | 3,060 |
| Bereavment/suicide training session | | | | | 117 | | 117 |
| Support of bereaved participant | | | | | 51 | | 51 |
| Kitchen refurbishment | | | | | | 5,097 | 5,097 |
| | 9,559 | 4,652 | 3,796 | 3,060 | 168 | 5,097 | 26,332 |
| Balance 31st March 2025 | 10,241 | 0 | 6,775 | 1,911 | 497 | 2,903 | 22,327 |

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

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Report to the trustees/members of

Charity name
The Meeting Place (Dunoon)

Registered charity number

SC049769

On the accounts of the charity for the period

| Period start date | | | | Period end date | | |
|-------------------|-------|------|----|-----------------|-------|------|
| Day | Month | Year | | Day | Month | Year |
| 01 | 04 | 2024 | to | 31 | 3 | 2025 |

Set out on pages

1-11

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention [other than that disclosed on the attached page*]

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Name:

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

Address:

Date:

5-12-25

*Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply. If the words do apply, set out those matters which have come to your attention on the following page.