Trustees' Report and Financial Statements For the year ended 31 March 2024



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Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2024

The Trustees are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.



Bankers TSB Bank 120 George Street Edinburgh EH2 4LH

Status of Charity and Governing Document

Cowdenhill Community Centre was registered as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 8 August 2017. The charity registration number is SC047632.

The objective of the Charity is:

 The provision of recreational facilities, or the organisation of recreational facilities, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended.

Trustees and Office Bearers

Management of the charity remains with the Trustees. The constitution requires a minimum of 5 trustees and a maximum of 12 to serve at any time. At each AGM, one third of all charity trustees retire from office and are eligible for reappointment. The Board can at any time appoint any person to be a charity trustee and new Board members are inducted into the organisation by the serving Trustees.

The Trustees who served during the year and to the date of this report are:



Achievements and performance

We have a had a very busy year again and our regular bookings are utilising the hall most days. We have regular groups/individuals who use the hall on a weekly or monthly basis. Most weekdays are fully booked. Our weekends are regularly booked with one-off lets for birthday parties, baby showers and other celebration events. We are currently experiencing an increase in requests for hall bookings and this is probably because other facilities within the town have either closed or are under threat of closure.

The automatic booking system which was rolled out to all users in early 2023 is proving valuable and is well used by our regular users. Anyone wishing to book the hall is able to do so online. It helps us keep a track of our accounts and cashflow.

We have continued to progress our interest in taking over the hall through the Community Asset Transfer process with Falkirk Council. We have engaged legal services and we are working alongside CVS Falkirk to construct the business plan.

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2024

Achievements and performance (continued)

Hall improvements have continued with more planned. Forth Valley First Responders met with the committee and we agreed that a defibrillator could be mounted on the front wall of the hall. The kitchen is the most important improvement planned but this cannot be fully considered until we know the outcome of the Asset Transfer process.

We currently have a committee consisting of 9 trustees. Ideally, we could do with a few more people joining the committee.

Lastly, our thanks go to all the committee members who give so generously of their time in order to keep this much needed community facility open.

Future plans

Looking forward, we continue to discuss the option of taking on the hall through a Community Asset Transfer. We have a small but vibrant and robust committee. We would still encourage other individuals and regular users to join the committee. We are convinced that the hall is a much-needed community asset but if we are to even consider taking it over on a lease basis, we need the community to consider it a local asset.

Financial review

Results for the year

The financial statements for the year are set out on pages 4 to 6. The Receipts and Payments Account on page 4 reflects a surplus for the year of £4,256 (2023: £6,610). Total reserves amounted to £31,964 (2023: £27,708).

Reserves policy

The Trustees aim to hold 2 years of general expenditure in the general fund at any time as a contingency to cover unforeseen costs which may arise. This policy was met at the year-end.

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 11 September 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2024

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year which are set out on pages 4 to 6.

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) Act 2005 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 Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). 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 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

- 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 (as amended), and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations (as amended)

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.



Cornerstone Accounting

Date: 11 September 2024

11 Erngath Road Bo'ness EH51 9DP



Receipts and Payments Account

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Descipte	General fund £	2024 Total £	General fund £	2023 Total £
Receipts				
Hall rental income	8,866	8,866	9,403	9,403
Deposits received	350	350	900	900
Deposits released	(662)	(662)	(525)	(525)
Discount given	(10)	(10)	-	-
Compensation for lost letting fees	-	-	180	180
Total receipts	8,544	8,544	9,958	9,958
Payments				
Rent (Falkirk Council service charge)	360	360	360	360
Cleaning costs	1,659	1,659	1,435	1,435
Repairs and maintenance	992	992	1,314	1,314
Key cutting costs	88	88	-	-
Software costs	239	239	239	239
Donation to Bo'ness Fair	100	100	-	-
Independent examination (2019-2023)	700	700	-	-
Total payments	4,288	4,288	3,348	3,348
Surplus for the year	4,256	4,256	6,610	6,610
Total funds brought forward	27,708	27,708	21,098	21,098
Total funds carried forward	31,964	31,964	27,708	27,708

The notes on page 6 form part of these financial statements.

Statement of Balances As at 31 March 2024

	Notes	Opening balance £	2024 Surplus for year £	Closing balance £	Opening balance £	2023 Surplus for year £	Closing balance £
Cash at bank and in hand		_	_	_	_	_	_
Current account		27,708	4,256	31,964	21,098	6,610	27,708
Total cash at bank and in hand		27,708	4,256	31,964	21,098	6,610	27,708
Represented by: Unrestricted fund	2						
General fund				31,964			27,708
Total funds				31,964		-	27,708
Statement of assets at 31 March				2024			2023
				£			£
Rental income due				192		_	360
				192		=	360
Statement of liabilities at 31 Marc	h			2024			2023
				£			£
Deposits held				466			750
Accounting and independent exam	ination fees			240		_	700
				706		=	700

The financial statements on pages 4 to 6 were approved by the Trustees on 11 September 2024 and signed on their behalf by the undernoted:



The notes on page 6 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2024

1. Accounting policies

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, on a receipts and payments basis and in accordance with the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Receipts and Payments Account

For the purpose of the Receipts and Payments account as shown on page 4, funds are defined as **Unrestricted** funds comprise donations, grants and other income received for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

2. Unrestricted funds

	Balance at 01.04.23 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 31.03.24 £
General fund	27,708	8,544	(4,288)	-	31,964
Total unrestricted funds	27,708	8,544	(4,288)	-	31,964

Explanation of funds

The *General fund* represents all income and expenditure relating to the primary focus activities of the charity, other than those for which funding is restricted.

3. Trustee and related party remuneration and expenses

There were no remuneration paid to any of the Trustees for their duties during the year ending 31 March 2024 (2023: nil). Expenses of £51 were refunded to 2 trustees for cleaning materials and repairs (2023: nil).