

Annual Review 2023



Registered Office: Wirral Environment Centre
Falkland Road
Wallasey
Wirral CH43 0TN
England

Tel 0151 639 2121
Email wen@la21.net
Reg Charity 1068306 Reg Company 3462312
<https://wirralenvironmentalnetwork.org.uk>

Wirral Environmental Network is a non-profit, non-party political coalition of individuals, groups and organisations, working together for a more sustainable society and the respect for nature and the environment. The aim of the organisation is to advance the education of the public about the preservation of our world's natural environment, ecological sustainability, natural resource conservation, waste management, recycling, and the principles of Fairtrade within Wirral and the surrounding area.

Current activities: Lifelong learning, Learning In Deprived Communities, WEN Crafters, WEN Reclaimers, Falkland Road Organic Gardeners, Green Hub @ St James Garden, WEN Flower Arranging, Alleyways project, Aquaponics, Re-use & Recycling Projects, Cool Communities. E news & quarterly newsletter (Wirral Evergreen) - website - information service.

Trustees' report

With the ever-increasing news of climate breakdown and the huge impact it has on the natural environment and humankind it is increasingly important that we spread the word about the climate and biodiversity emergency and solutions.

On the Wirral, individuals, communities and organisations are joining together to make a difference.

With your help, word is getting out. Not just about the impact of increasing and more frequent extreme weather events such as heatwaves and flooding, that can be seen on the news daily. But about local solutions available and national changes that we need.

Wirral Environmental Network is speaking to more people, running more courses and workshops, attending more events and welcoming more people to our environmental hub.

Still, we meet people who don't know what they can do about climate change, who think it is just too hard or it is too expensive or what they do won't make a difference. Our job is to demonstrate there are some easy steps, that actions to address the climate emergency can also reduce the cost of living and what everyone does, will make a difference.

We are heading on a path of increasing average global temperatures. But as more and more individuals, communities, organisations and government begin to make changes we have a chance to turn this around. To limit the increase in global temperatures.

So please, become a climate champion. If you are reading this, we know you already care. Encourage your friends, neighbours, community spaces, workplaces to make a change, contact local, national and international organisations and your political representatives to tell them that the environment is important to you.

Follow us, support us, join us. Together we can make a difference.

Wirral Environmental Network Trustees.

Gardening and related projects

The WEN productive garden has again surpassed itself especially with the high number of unusual varieties of tomatoes we decided to grow this year which have been a great success and which we will be repeating again in 2024 and hoping to grow more unusual varieties vegetables in 2024.

The garden classes have been well attended. These include practical gardening, History of Gardening (new for September 2023), Growing Fruit, Vegetables and Salads (again new this September) A- Z of Gardening and the garden group.

We have run Lifelong Learning gardening based courses for a number of years now at WEN but have now ceased running them and instead are running a growing fruit, vegetable and herbs course. We have also been running learning in deprived community workshops and courses which Kenny will discuss.

The gardens (including propagating all plants for events) are still being looked after wonderfully by FROG and with their help, the craft group contribution with all their creative ideas and produce and ALL our volunteers (which is growing all the time) we have been able to put on two garden events this year – Christmas and early summer event and we have raised in excess of £5,000.00 for WEN which is amazing, it just gets better and better every year.

I would like to express a personal big thanks to all the people involved including the administration staff, who are making a huge difference to WEN, not just the huge monetary contribution towards our running costs, but all the other things that you all do that make anyone who comes feel welcome and wanted - you are what WEN is all about, WEN couldn't run without you and it is a pleasure and privileged to work with you ALL , thank you!

Carol Seery.

Falkland Road Organic Growers (FROG)

Judith reported that the weather in 2023 had caused a few growing problems with a hot drought in June followed by a wet July. However some crops had fared well, tomatoes peppers and grapes did well but potatoes were small. Beans of course grew well and brassicas helped the caterpillars!! The Spring Fair went well and was enjoyed by all. FROG helped with the plant sale but there was no tombola this year.

New members Arthur and Pamela were welcomed as experienced gardeners and now volunteer numbers are very good. Kenny is sorting out the small polytunnel so we can put seedling there next year but they will need to be labelled FROG.

Judith Anton – Chair FROG.

Environmental Education and Sustainable Lifestyle Projects

Once again, it has been a busy year, huge thanks to the team that deliver and support our activities.

Hub – visitor centres & classrooms for sustainable living

Activities at our Sandon building and community garden in Wallasey have increased and there are days when we are bursting at the seams.

As well as our normal courses, workshops and groups, we have hosted children from the local school, Wirral wide Eco School leads, LIPA students and corporate volunteer days. We have welcomed visitors from other organisations and been used as a stopping point for local walking groups. We are grateful to the volunteers who continue to improve our centre.

WEN continues the Green Hub at St James Community Garden in Birkenhead North. We have been able to welcome more families to the site, promoting nature in the North End and distribute a bumper crop of apples to local families and community groups. Huge thanks to the volunteers who keep the green space going.

Training

WEN continues to offer sessions, workshops, courses at our Hub on topics including gardening, climate change, environment, food, energy, reuse and recycling, upcycling and IT, as well as hosting the successful WEN craft group, Falkland Road Organic Gardeners and WEN reclaimers. Welcome new addition includes bread making demonstrations and talks on crystals.

We have delivered community-based training, workshops and talks for groups across the Wirral. We have also supported highly appreciated visits to other organisations including the Gilmoor Recycling Facility.

We were pleased this year to retain our Matrix accreditation for the quality of information, advice and guidance that we provide.

Network

Our Big Green List now includes nearly 300 groups, charities and businesses which actively work to protect and improve Wirral's environment and reduce our carbon emissions. We continue to work with Transition Town Liverpool on the Mersey Green Map, a regional view of local, sustainable and ethical groups and businesses which also holds bi-monthly networking sessions. We presented at Transition Town gathering as well as to the Rotary Regional Conference.

We are a member of Cool Wirral, leading on the Cool Communities strand and contributing to ensuring events in Wirral's Year of Culture are as environmentally friendly as possible. We attended Neston Earth Festival, Cool Heswall, Wirral Makefest, Science under the Stars, Wirral Primary Science Network Conference, the Plastic Pledge Market and

Earthfest, promoting environmental activity on the Wirral. The number of subscribers to our fortnightly e-news and social media channels is growing and Evergreen continues to be well received. Thank you to Laura and Pam for their hard work.

WEN was delighted to support the start of Wirral CVS which supports a strong, vibrant and resilient Voluntary, Community, Faith & Social Enterprise Sector. We have had the pleasure of attending and presenting at a number of the Community of Practise mornings.

Projects

WEN are very grateful to a private donator who gave a significant donation to support projects at 15 schools across the Wirral and at Dibbinsdale Nature reserve. We are looking forward to the schools celebration event later this year.

We were able to facilitate the start of the Wirral Repair Café which has gone from strength to strength.

WEN continue to be a collection point for Wirral Free Uniform for Schools (FUSS). There continue to be bookings for our giant pollinator sculptures. of local wildflowers, made of repurposed materials.

Members and Volunteers

My review of the year would not be complete without a massive thanks to all our members and volunteers. Greater membership gives us a bigger voice when talking to others. Financial support helps us deliver services and projects with communities and groups.

Volunteers help run projects, events and fundraise, and are busy behind the scenes managing membership, supporting others, answering queries, running our communications, promoting environmental solutions and helping make sure our centre is suitable and welcoming to all. Thank you!

Naomi Graham.

Learning In Deprived Communities / Cool Communities

We have delivered this learning programme now for over 10yrs to an extremely high professional level often exceeding set targets and receiving praise from OFSTED inspections.

Last year WEN achieved the matrix standard for delivering of advice and guidance related to educational achievement. This year our tutors, Carol and Naomi are delivering short courses on sustainable food systems and climate change as part of our organisations goals to educate the public in living more sustainably and within the 1.5 degree target of global warming limitation.

Kenny Peers.

Accounts Summary for 2022-23 financial year

INCOME FINANCIAL YEAR	2022-2023	2021-2022
	£	£
Bank Interest	7	2
Centre Support	117	451
Donations	20688	783
Grants	15670	56477
Events & Sales	4355	9228
Membership	606	626
Other Income	1347	1173
Room Hire	2384	3333
Service agreements (SLAs) and other income	4834	3165
Total Income	50008	75236
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
Environmental Education	40178	52198
Management of the Charity	7068	6166
Total Expenditure	47245	58364
NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR	2763	16872
Balance brought forward (Excl shares)	55130	38257
CASH BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD	57893	55130
Current value of shares held	6345	5778
TOTAL ASSETS	64238	60908

All accounts held with Co-operative Bank. Summary prepared by Dave Brown.

Trustees

Dave Brown (Treasurer), Katrina Chapman, Dom Griffiths, Dave Jones (Chair), Anne Litherland, Perle Sheldricks, Ben Shoebridge, Dave Pye (Secretary).

The WEN team

Naomi Graham (Office Manager, Sustainability Officer).
Maria Harper-Cain (Horticultural Wildlife & Conservation Trainer)
Karen Hawthorne (Volunteer Co-ordinator).
Laura Higginbottom (Online Communications)
Annie Jackson (Membership Secretary)
Susan Kirkham (Sustainability & Office support)
Pam McCarron (Marketing & Communications).
Phil McHoul (Finance).
Kenny Peers (Sustainability).
Carol Seery (Garden Courses).

Patrons

Tina Fox, John Guillebaud, Jonathon Porritt, Charles Secrett, Dr Joanna Sharples, Pat Sykes MBE.

Membership

Individual 69, Group 25 (as of November 2023).

We were honoured to work with a huge range of community groups and organisations including:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
|) Bee Wirral |) St James Centre |
|) Bidston Avenue Primary School |) St Vincent de Paul |
|) Callister Gardens |) Transition Town West Kirby |
|) Eco Schools across Wirral |) Voice of Egremont |
|) Egremont Primary School |) Wirral FUSS |
|) Energy Projects Plus |) Wirral Lifelong Learning |
|) Joint Rotary Environment Group |) Wirral Tree Wardens |
|) Heart4Refugees |) Wirral Makefest |
|) Holy Cross Primary School |) Wirral Repair Cafe |
|) Make it Happen, Birkenhead |) Wirral Unplugged |
|) Mid Wirral Rotary | |
|) HYPE Merseyside | |

With thanks to the support of

-) Cradle to Career
-) Eureka
-) Kirkland Grant
-) Open Golf Championship
-) RSA Insurance Group
-) Soroptimists International
-) Wirral Borough Council

Wirral Environmental Network

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements Year Ended 31 March 2023

Company registration number: 3462312

Charity registration number: 1068306



**Wirral
Environmental
Network**

"Working to reduce Wirral's Carbon Footprint"

Wirral Environmental Network

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Wirral Environmental Network

Trustees' Report

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees & Directors

K Chapman

P Sheldricks

D Brown

A Litherland

B Shoebridge

D Griffiths

D Jones (Chair)

D Pye, Company Secretary

Other Officers

N Graham, Office Manager

P McHoul, Finance manager

Principal Office

Sandon Building

Falkland Road

Wallasey

Wirral

CH44 8ER

The charity is incorporated in England and Wales.

Company Registration Number 3462312

Charity Registration Number 1068306

Bankers Co-operative Bank

Independent Examiner Ian Wright

Wirral Environmental Network

Trustees' Report

The trustees are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ending 31st March 2023.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Charity – originally known as Wirral LA21 Network - is constituted as a Company limited by Guarantee and not having a share capital, and is governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association incorporated 7 November 1997, amended by special resolution 21 August 2003 and by certificate of incorporation on change of name dated 31 October 2009.

The charity is registered with the Charities commissioners under charity number 1068306.

Appointment of trustees

As set out in the Articles of Association the trustees are approved at a General meeting. There is no limit to the time a trustee may serve, although one third of trustees are expected to retire by rotation and be subject to reappointment. During the year, the trustees may appoint a person who is willing to act to be a trustee either to fill a vacancy or as an additional trustee. In this case, that person will hold office only until the next following annual general meeting and shall not be taken into account in determining the trustees who are to retire by rotation at the AGM. If not reappointed at such annual general meeting, the additional trustee(s) shall vacate office at the end of the AGM. There is a minimum of three Trustees but no maximum number. A simple process is in place to clarify trustee recruitment and induction, including interviews and references as necessary.

Trustee induction and training

The Chair of Trustees arranges an induction for new Trustees, including their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Trustee committee and decision making processes, and minimum commitment expected from the new trustee. They also learn in situ about the organisation structure, business plan and recent financial performance of the charity. The new trustee will meet key team members and be provided with access to operational procedures. They are encouraged to attend appropriate events to gain greater knowledge of the charity's activities and to help in the undertaking of their role.

Organisation

The Board of trustees oversees the charity and meets formally on a bi-monthly basis; however exceptional meetings on specific matters can be arranged as and when required. The Office Manager manages the day-to-day operations of the charity. The trustees are supplied with financial information bi-monthly together with updates on activity.

Wirral Environmental Network

Trustees' Report

Objectives and activities

Wirral Environmental Network (WEN) is a local charity which aims to advance the education of the public about the preservation of our world's natural environment, ecological sustainability, natural resource conservation, waste minimisation, recycling and the principles of fair trade, within Wirral and the surrounding area. It is also a focal point for sustainability issues locally.

WEN has delivered and continue to deliver training and projects such as BEE Wirral, Learning In Deprived Communities, Falkland Road Organic Gardeners, Green Hub @ St James Garden, Re-use & Recycling Projects, Cool Communities, Community Voluntary and Faith Fund (Biodiversity Conference and Eco Art in the park), Kirkwood Grant (Dibbinsdale and Schools), SPARKS (Sustainable Seacombe), Courses and workshops at Falkland Road and St James Garden, the Mersey Green Map, E news & quarterly newsletter (Wirral Evergreen), website and information service.

The Trustees review WEN's aims, objectives and activities each year to ensure that we remain focused and have given due regard to public benefit when planning the charity's activities.

Achievements and performance

With the ever-increasing news of climate breakdown and the huge impact it has on the natural environment and humankind it is increasingly important that we spread the word about the climate and biodiversity emergency and solutions.

On the Wirral, individuals, communities and organisations are joining together to make a difference. With your help, word is getting out. Not just about the impact of increasing and more frequent extreme weather events such as heatwaves and flooding, that can be seen on the news daily. But about local solutions available and national changes that we need.

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Wirral Environmental Network

Trustees' Report

Plans for future periods:

The Board of Trustees have produced a vision for WEN in 2030 and this provides direction to activities and decisions made within the team – for example in deciding which grant opportunities to pursue. We will produce a business plan for the year ahead to help us focus our efforts, and then make this a part of our ongoing approach on an annual basis.

In the next year, WEN will be looking to apply to the LCR Community Environment Fund again. A key focus will be to develop our long-term accommodation needs, now that possible options are becoming clearer, and to continue to embed risk management within our operating approach.

Risk management

The following risk areas have been identified as key to the organisation:

- Insolvency
- Loss of key staff
- Inadequate Governance
- Fail to meet Charity aims / scope creep
- IT failure
- Data loss/breach/GDPR
- Safeguarding & vulnerable people
- Health & Safety – incident
- Accommodation change (Falkland Rd)
- Asset management (loss/fraud).

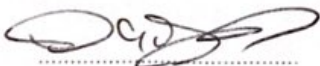
Mitigation Strategy:

Risk areas have been prioritised and individual risks are a focus of trustee meetings, through the forward agenda for the year. This will continue to allow the Trustees and the WEN team to have a better articulated, common perception of the risks and mitigation actions.

Financial review:

The income for this accounting period amounted to £50,008 (previous year: £75,236) with the net income being £2,763. The level of unrestricted funds stands at £34,142 which surpasses our minimum aim of retaining reserves of the equivalent of 12 months of overhead expenses (circa £10,000). We are outgrowing our current premises and so are building up unrestricted reserves for a planned premises project in 2024/2025.

Signed on behalf of the WEN Trustees by:



D Jones (Chair)
Trustee & Director

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of the Wirral Environmental Network (WEN)

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended the 31 March 2023 which are set out on pages 8 to 12.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income did not exceed £250,000 your examiner need not be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act, or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I Wright

Ian Wright, BA, FCA
Chartered Accountant
15 Stretton Drive
Southport
Merseyside PR9 7DR

11 November 2023

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2023
(Including Income and Expenditure Account)

	Notes	Restricted	Unrestricted	2023	2022
				£	£
Income & endowments from:					
Donations & legacies		20,000	1,411	21,411	1,860
Trading & other activities		170	5,532	5,702	10,400
Charitable activities		15,670	7,218	22,888	62,975
Investment income					
Other income		0	7	7	2
Total income		35,840	14,168	50,008	75,236
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities		25,206	14,971	40,178	52,198
Management of the charity		5,095	1,973	7,068	6,166
Total Expenditure		30,301	16,944	47,245	58,364
Net income /expenditure		5,539	(2,776)	2,763	16,872
Total funds brought forward		24,557	36,351	60,908	44,062
Net Gains/(Losses) on investments			567	567	(27)
Total funds carried forward		30,096	34,142	64,238	60,907

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

Balance Sheet

31 March 2023

Balance Sheet 31st March 2023				2023	2022
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	Note 7				
Investments			5,778	5,805	
Investments revaluation			567	(27)	
			6,345	5,778	
Current assets					
Debtors					
Cash at bank and in hand			57,893	55,130	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	Note 8				
Net current assets			57,893	55,130	
Net assets			64,238	60,908	
Funds of the charity					
Restricted	Note 9		30,096	24,557	
Unrestricted	Note 9		34,142	36,351	
Total funds			£64,238	£60,908	

For the financial year ending 31 March 2023 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements on pages 8 to 9 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 22 November 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



D Jones (Chair)
Trustee & Director

Company Registration Number: 3462312

Wirral Environmental Network

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 March 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES			
(a) Basis of preparation of financial statements			
The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Statement of recommended practise "Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2006), applicable accounting standards and the Companies Act 2006			
(b) Income			
Voluntary income and donations are included in income when they are receivable, except when donors specify they must be used in future accounting periods, then the income is deferred. The income from fundraising is shown gross. Grant income is provided and may relate to specific projects.			
(c) Expenditure			
Are included in the Statement of Financial activities on an accrual basis inclusive of VAT Expenditure which is directly attributable to specific activities has been included.			
(d) Tangible fixed assets			
Are stated at cost less depreciation			
depreciation is provided at rates listed below			
Computers	25%		Straight line
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	15%		Straight line
Motor vehicle	20%		Straight line
(Above rates are historic see Note 7)			
(e) Expenditure on Management of the Charity			
Includes all expenditure not directly related to the charitable activity or fundraising			
Includes rent and office expenditure, salaries for administration and accountancy.			
2. DIRECTORS			
As a charity the directors and trustees received no emoluments nor reimbursement of expenses for the year ended 31 March 2023			

Wirral Environmental Network

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 March 2023

3.	INCOME		22-23 Restrict	22-23 Unrestricted	22-23 Total	2022
	Bank Interest			7	7	2
	Centre Support			117	117	451
	Donations		20,000	688	20,688	783
	Grants		15,670	0	15,670	56,477
	Events & Sales		1	4,354	4,355	9,228
	Membership			606	606	626
	Other Income		169	1,178	1,347	1,173
	Room & Contr Hire		0	2,384	2,384	3,333
	Admin, Shts & Cash			4,834	4,834	3,165
	Total Income		35,840	14,168	50,008	75,236
	EXPENDITURE					
	Environmental Education	3	25,206	14,971	40,178	52,198
	Management of the Charity	4	5,095	1,973	7,068	6,166
	Total Expenditure		30,301	16,944	47,245	58,364
	NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR		5,539	-2,776	2,763	16,872
	Change in shares value	Note 7		567	567	-27
	Balance brought forward		24,557	36,351	60,908	44,062
	BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD		30,096	34,142	64,238	60,907

3 ctd	ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION		22-23 Restri	22-23 Unrestrict	2023	2022
					£	£
	Project Materials		2,418	982	3,400	7,106
	Printing & Postage		202	697	898	675
	Prize Draw			151	151	70
	Premises			5,100	5,100	5,100
	Training & Events		155	0	155	2,223
	Salaries & Contractors		22,431	7,238	29,669	36,448
	Telephone			804	804	576
	Travel & Volunteers	now inc in Admin			0	0
	Events Cost	now inc in T & E			0	0
					0	0
			25,206	14,971	40,178	52,198

4 MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE CHARITY

		Restricted	Unrestricted	2023	2022
				£	£
	Admin	4,986	862	5,848	3,865
	Office & Other Expenses	109	1,111	1,220	2,301
	Depreciation & refund			0	0
	Insurance		0	0	0
	Cash to Bank				
		5,095	1,973	7,068	6,166

Wirral Environmental Network

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 March 2023

5. NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS			2023	2,022
Stated after charging:-			£	£
Depreciation	0			
6. TAXATION				
As a charity the company is exempt from corporation tax.				
7 FIXED ASSETS & DEPRECIATION				
Although project material purchase is high, the materials are not assets. Equipment and materials acquired belong to the project beneficiaries.				
At the previous year end all assets including computers, fixtures, equipment and the motor vehicle had been fully depreciated to a value of nil. Several of the older computers, monitors and furniture were also scrapped during the internal move.				
			2023	2022
Tridos Shares valuation at year end	5,778		5,805	
Revaluation difference	567		-27	
Total Valuation	6,345		5,778	
8 CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year.			2023	2022
			£	£
Unpresented cheques	0		0	
	0		0	
9. FUNDS OF THE CHARITY			2023	2022
consisting of:				
Restricted (Grants)	30,096		24,557	
Unrestricted	34,142		36,351	
	64,238		60,908	
10. GUARANTEE				
The company is limited by guarantee whereby every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company, in the event of winding up while they are a member or within one year after they ceased to be a member, such amounts as may be required not exceeding one pound.				
At 31 March 2023 there were 89 individual members and 24 group members.				
11. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS				
None.				
12 ADMIN				
Admin was formerly included in 'Office and Other Expenses'				

Wirral Environmental Network

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 March 2023

13 RESTRICTED FUNDS					
	Balance at	Income	Expenditure	Balance at	
	01 April 2022			31 March 2023	
	£	£	£	£	
The Alleyways Project 22	1,000	0	1,000	0	
BEE Wirral	1,400	0	1,400	0	
Cool Communities	1,650	0	0	1,650	
Community Voluntary & Faith Fund	13,135	2,000	11,293	3,842	
Green Hub	137	0	70	67	
Hydroponics project	1,410	0	0	1,410	
Kirkwood Grant (Dibbinsdale and Schools)	0	20,000	691	19,310	
Learning in Deprived Communities	4,966	11,000	12,855	3,111	
Liscard Popup	707	0	0	707	
Reuse & Recycling Projects	261	61	321	0	
SPARKS - Sustainable Seacombe	0	2,671	2,671	0	
St James'	-109	109	0	0	
	24,557	35,840	30,301	30,096	
14 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
	Balance at	Income	Expenditure	Gains/Losses	Balance at
	01 April 2022				31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	36,351	14,174	16,944	567	34,148
15 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS					
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total		
	£	£	£		
Investments	0	6,345	6,345		
Current Assets	30,096	27,797	57,893		
	30,096	34,142	64,238		

Wirral Environmental Network

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements Year Ended 31 March 2023

Company registration number: 3462312

Charity registration number: 1068306



**Wirral
Environmental
Network**

"Working to reduce Wirral's Carbon Footprint"

Wirral Environmental Network

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Wirral Environmental Network

Trustees' Report

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees & Directors

K Chapman

P Sheldricks

D Brown

A Litherland

B Shoebridge

D Griffiths

D Jones (Chair)

D Pye, Company Secretary

Other Officers

N Graham, Office Manager

P McHoul, Finance manager

Principal Office

Sandon Building

Falkland Road

Wallasey

Wirral

CH44 8ER

The charity is incorporated in England and Wales.

Company Registration Number 3462312

Charity Registration Number 1068306

Bankers Co-operative Bank

Independent Examiner Ian Wright

Wirral Environmental Network

Trustees' Report

The trustees are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ending 31st March 2023.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Charity – originally known as Wirral LA21 Network - is constituted as a Company limited by Guarantee and not having a share capital, and is governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association incorporated 7 November 1997, amended by special resolution 21 August 2003 and by certificate of incorporation on change of name dated 31 October 2009.

The charity is registered with the Charities commissioners under charity number 1068306.

Appointment of trustees

As set out in the Articles of Association the trustees are approved at a General meeting. There is no limit to the time a trustee may serve, although one third of trustees are expected to retire by rotation and be subject to reappointment. During the year, the trustees may appoint a person who is willing to act to be a trustee either to fill a vacancy or as an additional trustee. In this case, that person will hold office only until the next following annual general meeting and shall not be taken into account in determining the trustees who are to retire by rotation at the AGM. If not reappointed at such annual general meeting, the additional trustee(s) shall vacate office at the end of the AGM. There is a minimum of three Trustees but no maximum number. A simple process is in place to clarify trustee recruitment and induction, including interviews and references as necessary.

Trustee induction and training

The Chair of Trustees arranges an induction for new Trustees, including their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Trustee committee and decision making processes, and minimum commitment expected from the new trustee. They also learn in situ about the organisation structure, business plan and recent financial performance of the charity. The new trustee will meet key team members and be provided with access to operational procedures. They are encouraged to attend appropriate events to gain greater knowledge of the charity's activities and to help in the undertaking of their role.

Organisation

The Board of trustees oversees the charity and meets formally on a bi-monthly basis; however exceptional meetings on specific matters can be arranged as and when required. The Office Manager manages the day-to-day operations of the charity. The trustees are supplied with financial information bi-monthly together with updates on activity.

Wirral Environmental Network

Trustees' Report

Objectives and activities

Wirral Environmental Network (WEN) is a local charity which aims to advance the education of the public about the preservation of our world's natural environment, ecological sustainability, natural resource conservation, waste minimisation, recycling and the principles of fair trade, within Wirral and the surrounding area. It is also a focal point for sustainability issues locally.

WEN has delivered and continue to deliver training and projects such as BEE Wirral, Learning In Deprived Communities, Falkland Road Organic Gardeners, Green Hub @ St James Garden, Re-use & Recycling Projects, Cool Communities, Community Voluntary and Faith Fund (Biodiversity Conference and Eco Art in the park), Kirkwood Grant (Dibbinsdale and Schools), SPARKS (Sustainable Seacombe), Courses and workshops at Falkland Road and St James Garden, the Mersey Green Map, E news & quarterly newsletter (Wirral Evergreen), website and information service.

The Trustees review WEN's aims, objectives and activities each year to ensure that we remain focused and have given due regard to public benefit when planning the charity's activities.

Achievements and performance

With the ever-increasing news of climate breakdown and the huge impact it has on the natural environment and humankind it is increasingly important that we spread the word about the climate and biodiversity emergency and solutions.

On the Wirral, individuals, communities and organisations are joining together to make a difference. With your help, word is getting out. Not just about the impact of increasing and more frequent extreme weather events such as heatwaves and flooding, that can be seen on the news daily. But about local solutions available and national changes that we need.

Wirral Environmental Network is speaking to more people, running more courses and workshops, attending more events and welcoming more people to our environmental hub.

Still, we meet people who don't know what they can do about climate change, who think it is just too hard or it is too expensive or what they do won't make a difference. Our job is to demonstrate there are some easy steps, that actions to address the climate emergency can also reduce the cost of living and what everyone does, will make a difference.

We are heading on a path of increasing average global temperatures. But as more and more individuals, communities, organisations and government begin to make changes we have a chance to turn this around. To limit the increase in global temperatures.

So please, become a climate champion. If you are reading this, we know you already care. Encourage your friends, neighbours, community spaces, workplaces to make a change, contact local, national and international organisations and your political representatives to tell them that the environment is important to you.

Follow us, support us, join us. Together we can make a difference.

Wirral Environmental Network

Trustees' Report

Plans for future periods:

The Board of Trustees have produced a vision for WEN in 2030 and this provides direction to activities and decisions made within the team – for example in deciding which grant opportunities to pursue. We will produce a business plan for the year ahead to help us focus our efforts, and then make this a part of our ongoing approach on an annual basis.

In the next year, WEN will be looking to apply to the LCR Community Environment Fund again. A key focus will be to develop our long-term accommodation needs, now that possible options are becoming clearer, and to continue to embed risk management within our operating approach.

Risk management

The following risk areas have been identified as key to the organisation:

- Insolvency
- Loss of key staff
- Inadequate Governance
- Fail to meet Charity aims / scope creep
- IT failure
- Data loss/breach/GDPR
- Safeguarding & vulnerable people
- Health & Safety – incident
- Accommodation change (Falkland Rd)
- Asset management (loss/fraud).

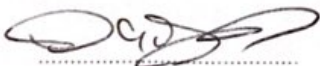
Mitigation Strategy:

Risk areas have been prioritised and individual risks are a focus of trustee meetings, through the forward agenda for the year. This will continue to allow the Trustees and the WEN team to have a better articulated, common perception of the risks and mitigation actions.

Financial review:

The income for this accounting period amounted to £50,008 (previous year: £75,236) with the net income being £2,763. The level of unrestricted funds stands at £34,142 which surpasses our minimum aim of retaining reserves of the equivalent of 12 months of overhead expenses (circa £10,000). We are outgrowing our current premises and so are building up unrestricted reserves for a planned premises project in 2024/2025.

Signed on behalf of the WEN Trustees by:



D Jones (Chair)
Trustee & Director

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of the Wirral Environmental Network (WEN)

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended the 31 March 2023 which are set out on pages 8 to 12.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

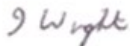
Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income did not exceed £250,000 your examiner need not be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act, or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Ian Wright, BA, FCA
Chartered Accountant
15 Stretton Drive
Southport
Merseyside PR9 7DR

11 November 2023

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2023
(Including Income and Expenditure Account)

	Notes	Restricted	Unrestricted	2023	2022
				£	£
Income & endowments from:					
Donations & legacies		20,000	1,411	21,411	1,860
Trading & other activities		170	5,532	5,702	10,400
Charitable activities		15,670	7,218	22,888	62,975
Investment income					
Other income		0	7	7	2
Total income		35,840	14,168	50,008	75,236
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities		25,206	14,971	40,178	52,198
Management of the charity		5,095	1,973	7,068	6,166
Total Expenditure		30,301	16,944	47,245	58,364
Net income /expenditure		5,539	(2,776)	2,763	16,872
Total funds brought forward		24,557	36,351	60,908	44,062
Net Gains/(Losses) on investments			567	567	(27)
Total funds carried forward		30,096	34,142	64,238	60,907

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

Balance Sheet

31 March 2023

Balance Sheet 31st March 2023				2023	2022
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	Note 7				
Investments			5,778	5,805	
Investments revaluation			567	(27)	
			6,345	5,778	
Current assets					
Debtors					
Cash at bank and in hand			57,893	55,130	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	Note 8				
Net current assets			57,893	55,130	
Net assets			64,238	60,908	
Funds of the charity					
Restricted	Note 9		30,096	24,557	
Unrestricted	Note 9		34,142	36,351	
Total funds			£64,238	£60,908	

For the financial year ending 31 March 2023 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements on pages 8 to 9 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 22 November 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



D Jones (Chair)
Trustee & Director

Company Registration Number: 3462312

Wirral Environmental Network

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 March 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES			
(a) Basis of preparation of financial statements			
The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Statement of recommended practise "Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2006), applicable accounting standards and the Companies Act 2006			
(b) Income			
Voluntary income and donations are included in income when they are receivable, except when donors specify they must be used in future accounting periods, then the income is deferred. The income from fundraising is shown gross. Grant income is provided and may relate to specific projects.			
(c) Expenditure			
Are included in the Statement of Financial activities on an accrual basis inclusive of VAT Expenditure which is directly attributable to specific activities has been included.			
(d) Tangible fixed assets			
Are stated at cost less depreciation			
depreciation is provided at rates listed below			
Computers	25%		Straight line
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	15%		Straight line
Motor vehicle	20%		Straight line
(Above rates are historic see Note 7)			
(e) Expenditure on Management of the Charity			
Includes all expenditure not directly related to the charitable activity or fundraising			
Includes rent and office expenditure, salaries for administration and accountancy.			
2. DIRECTORS			
As a charity the directors and trustees received no emoluments nor reimbursement of expenses for the year ended 31 March 2023			

Wirral Environmental Network

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 March 2023

3.	INCOME		22-23 Restrict	22-23 Unrestricted	22-23 Total	2022
	Bank Interest			7	7	2
	Centre Support			117	117	451
	Donations		20,000	688	20,688	783
	Grants		15,670	0	15,670	56,477
	Events & Sales		1	4,354	4,355	9,228
	Membership			606	606	626
	Other Income		169	1,178	1,347	1,173
	Room & Contr Hire		0	2,384	2,384	3,333
	Admin, Shts & Cash			4,834	4,834	3,165
	Total Income		35,840	14,168	50,008	75,236
	EXPENDITURE					
	Environmental Education	3	25,206	14,971	40,178	52,198
	Management of the Charity	4	5,095	1,973	7,068	6,166
	Total Expenditure		30,301	16,944	47,245	58,364
	NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR		5,539	-2,776	2,763	16,872
	Change in shares value	Note 7		567	567	-27
	Balance brought forward		24,557	36,351	60,908	44,062
	BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD		30,096	34,142	64,238	60,907

3 ctd	ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION		22-23 Restri	22-23 Unrestrict	2023	2022
					£	£
	Project Materials		2,418	982	3,400	7,106
	Printing & Postage		202	697	898	675
	Prize Draw			151	151	70
	Premises			5,100	5,100	5,100
	Training & Events		155	0	155	2,223
	Salaries & Contractors		22,431	7,238	29,669	36,448
	Telephone			804	804	576
	Travel & Volunteers	now inc in Admin			0	0
	Events Cost	now inc in T & E			0	0
					0	0
			25,206	14,971	40,178	52,198

4 MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE CHARITY

		Restricted	Unrestricted	2023	2022
				£	£
	Admin	4,986	862	5,848	3,865
	Office & Other Expenses	109	1,111	1,220	2,301
	Depreciation & refund			0	0
	Insurance		0	0	0
	Cash to Bank	5,095	1,973	7,068	6,166

Wirral Environmental Network

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 March 2023

5. NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS			2023	2,022
Stated after charging:-			£	£
Depreciation	0			
6. TAXATION				
As a charity the company is exempt from corporation tax.				
7 FIXED ASSETS & DEPRECIATION				
Although project material purchase is high, the materials are not assets. Equipment and materials acquired belong to the project beneficiaries.				
At the previous year end all assets including computers, fixtures, equipment and the motor vehicle had been fully depreciated to a value of nil. Several of the older computers, monitors and furniture were also scrapped during the internal move.				
			2023	2022
Tridos Shares valuation at year end	5,778		5,805	
Revaluation difference	567		-27	
Total Valuation	6,345		5,778	
8 CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year.			2023	2022
			£	£
Unpresented cheques	0		0	
	0		0	
9. FUNDS OF THE CHARITY			2023	2022
consisting of:				
Restricted (Grants)	30,096		24,557	
Unrestricted	34,142		36,351	
	64,238		60,908	
10. GUARANTEE				
The company is limited by guarantee whereby every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company, in the event of winding up while they are a member or within one year after they ceased to be a member, such amounts as may be required not exceeding one pound.				
At 31 March 2023 there were 89 individual members and 24 group members.				
11. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS				
None.				
12 ADMIN				
Admin was formerly included in 'Office and Other Expenses'				

Wirral Environmental Network

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 March 2023

13 RESTRICTED FUNDS					
	Balance at	Income	Expenditure	Balance at	
	01 April 2022			31 March 2023	
	£	£	£	£	
The Alleyways Project 22	1,000	0	1,000	0	
BEE Wirral	1,400	0	1,400	0	
Cool Communities	1,650	0	0	1,650	
Community Voluntary & Faith Fund	13,135	2,000	11,293	3,842	
Green Hub	137	0	70	67	
Hydroponics project	1,410	0	0	1,410	
Kirkwood Grant (Dibbinsdale and Schools)	0	20,000	691	19,310	
Learning in Deprived Communities	4,966	11,000	12,855	3,111	
Liscard Popup	707	0	0	707	
Reuse & Recycling Projects	261	61	321	0	
SPARKS - Sustainable Seacombe	0	2,671	2,671	0	
St James'	-109	109	0	0	
	24,557	35,840	30,301	30,096	
14 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
	Balance at	Income	Expenditure	Gains/Losses	Balance at
	01 April 2022				31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	36,351	14,174	16,944	567	34,148
15 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS					
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total		
	£	£	£		
Investments	0	6,345	6,345		
Current Assets	30,096	27,797	57,893		
	30,096	34,142	64,238		