

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: NI611583
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 101460

**Ballybeen Improvement Group
Company Limited by Guarantee
Financial Statements
31 March 2023**

Ballybeen Improvement Group

Company Limited by Guarantee

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2023

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Ballybeen Improvement Group

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

Year ended 31 March 2023

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name Ballybeen Improvement Group

Charity registration number 101460

Company registration number NI611583

Principal office and registered office Unit 7 Craigleith Drive
Dundonald
Belfast
BT16 2QP

The trustees

Ms T Hughes
Mr W Livingstone
Rev R McIlhatton
Mr C Mullan
Mr N Shields
Rev JW Cheshire
Mr G Maxwell
Rev P Maxwell

Independent examiner Elaine Mulholland for and on behalf of Johnston Graham Limited
216/218 Holywood Road
Belfast
BT4 1PD

Structure, governance and management

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee and incorporated on 7 March 2012.

The company was established under Articles of Association which set out the objects and powers of the charitable company and the company is governed by these Articles. In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Ballybeen Improvement Group is in compliance with legal and other government obligations. The company was formally granted charitable status by the Northern Ireland Charities Commission on 5 June 2015.

Ballybeen Improvement Group

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Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

Objectives and activities

The objectives of the charity are as follows:

- Building relationships, initiating positive change and growing potential.
- Aspire to be a welcoming and thriving community at peace and unity with itself, working towards an all-inclusive society, where all are valued contributors towards a positive future.
- The advancement of health or the saving of lives.
- 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.
- The relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.

Through these objectives the charity aims to:

- *facilitate and support information sharing to strengthen relations to collaborate and gain better opportunities for the area.*
- build community capacity and improve educational aspirations.
- develop the local surroundings, rejuvenate the area and make it an enhanced environment.
- support and assist those in need; by reducing isolation, encourage engagement and promote inclusion.
- encourage good community relations to enable a cohesive and inclusive community to flourish and to be advocates for equity, equality and diversity.

In setting out the objectives for the charity and planning activities for the year, the trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities have helped to achieve the charity's purpose and provide a benefit to the beneficiaries.

Ballybeen Improvement Group

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Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

Achievements and performance

Overview

All work done within the Ballybeen Improvement Group is based on community development principles. As an umbrella organisation, BIG is regarded as playing an integral part in fostering improved community cohesion, promoting community participation, and assisting with community planning and regeneration. In collaboration with the Ballybeen community, BIG has created, maintained, and expanded networks with the voluntary, public, and statutory sectors over this past year. Through engaging with community committees and the existing sub-groups, which also have representation from these sectors, communication is taking place. The reporting period is representative of all achievements for the financial year of 2022-23 and the 4th year taking on the Department for Communities contract independently. During this period, there was continued growth in responsibility and workload increase with regards to Governance and oversight from the board.

Building Relationships

We place a high importance on our working partnerships. Throughout the reporting period, we have established and maintained important connections with statutory organisations like the Department for Communities, the PSNI, the NIHE, Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council, and our member groups-particularly those that depend on BIG's support to thrive-as well as with our council members, MLAs, and the MP for East Belfast, to whom we have been able to reach out and request assistance. Above all, we have established productive working connections with the Ballybeen community.

Funding and Sub-Group's

There were 8 funding streams utilised during this period, which enabled us to engage in many activities and events 2022-23. During this period 20 sub-group meetings were also held including:

- x8 Sports Hub committee
- x4 Health and Wellbeing
- x1 Policy and Practice
- x1 Finance and Personnel
- x1 Greenway Focus Group Conversations
- 5 PSNI Surgeries

Achievements To Date

-Cultural learning took place for the Pride of Ballybeen Band thanks to the Good Relations funding. The Good Relations Project included the education of young people via museums, history days and a residential.

-The CO-MENT programme took place in BIG's office space to host an outside programme to learn skills for life, employment, support, and digital equipment.

-Ukraine Appeal took place which involved collecting clothes and goods to be sent to Ukraine as a result of the war that had broken out at the time.

-BIG hosted a good practice visit for the BAND project (Build Advocate Nurture Develop), for members to learn about the array of services, support & activities available within the community.

-Ranger's Academy took place and was a successful event with 50 young people in attendance.

-The July Family Fun Day was a successful event with 1000 in attendance.

-Longstone Beacon Project took place as an initiative for the 12th and for young people, along with a firework display.

Ballybeen Improvement Group

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Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

-Men's Club bowls championship took place at the Men's Club.

-Annual Christmas Event took place with the Brooklands Christmas Choir taking part in another successful Christmas event.

Going Forward

Our Community Development Officer has recently carried out a community survey to best understand the needs of the community for moving forward. The findings have contributed to a better understanding of Ballybeen's eight grassroots issues. These key issues include.

- Educational Attainment
- Housing Rights
- Anti-social Behaviour
- Policing
- Community Participation
- Cost of Living
- Banned Substances
- Dog Fouling

Having a better understanding of these problems will enable us to focus our practice on meeting community needs even more successfully, moving forward.

Financial review

The charity's incoming resources totalled £70,832 for the year ended 31 March 2023 with corresponding expenditure of £64,647 producing a surplus for the year of £6,185.

At the year end, the charity's reserves amounted to £36,058 of which £28,765 were unrestricted.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 19 December 2023 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Rev R McIlhatton
Trustee