

Green Shoot Productions

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees present their Trustees' Annual Report, combining the Directors' Report and Trustees' Report, and the unaudited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Trustees' Report contains the information required to be provided in the Trustees' Annual Report under the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) guidelines. The trustees of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's constitution are known as members of the board of trustees.

In this report the trustees of Green Shoot Productions present a summary of its purpose, governance, activities, achievements and finances for the financial year 31 March 2024.

The company is a registered charity and hence the report and results are presented in a form which complies with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and, although not obliged to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP effective January 2015), the organisation has implemented its recommendations where relevant in these financial statements.

Mission, Objectives and Strategy

Objectives

Vision

A Northern Ireland where theatre is placed in the heart of communities and where working class and marginalised voices are heard on all stages.

Mission

GSP is dedicated to commissioning and producing new writing for the stage, to the highest possible standards. The company is committed to developing and presenting plays that contain strong social, political and cultural themes, making theatre that is relevant to the population of N.I.

GSP seeks to promote working class and other marginalised voices that are under-represented within theatre. We constantly strive to attract new audiences and participants. Community engagement forms the foundation of all aspects of the company's approach and activity.

Green Shoot Productions core values are:

Excellence – we aim for the highest quality of work in everything we do, from professional production to community engagement.

Inclusion – we aim to ensure working class and marginalised voices are brought to the fore; are heard, understood and respected by all.

Equality – our employment and artistic work treats all with dignity and fairness.

Partnership – we actively seek partners to develop our programmes, embrace new skills, and reach new audiences and participants.

Structure, Governance and Management

Structure

Governing document: Green Shoot Productions is a company Limited by Guarantee not having a share capital, incorporated in 8th May 2002 and registered as a charity with Charity Commission NI in November 2016.

Appointment of the Board of Directors: There are currently 4 directors of the company, appointed annually at the AGM.

Board Induction and Training: New members undergo induction and orientation being briefed on legal obligations under charity and company law. From time to time, the Board undertakes further management training.

Organisational Operations: The Board of GSP administer the charity. The board delegate programming to Martin Lynch as Artistic Director, as the most senior officer.

Related parties and co-operation with other organisations: None of the Directors received remuneration or other benefits from their work with the Charity. Any conflict of interest in relation to any contractual agreements must be disclosed. No conflicts of interest arose have been reported in the current year.

Reference and administration details: the name of the Charity is Green Shoot Productions. It is a limited by

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Guarantee not having a share capital. The Company was incorporated in 8th May 2002 and registered as a charity with Charity Commission NI on the 16th November 2016. (Charity Number: NIC105841)

Directors: The company is limited by guarantee and therefore there was no directors interest in share capital.

Review of Activities, Achievements and Performance

Programming

2023 – 2024 was another packed year for the Company.

This year is the last year of our Company Residency in the Tiger's Bay, York Rd, Shore Rd. area.

During this period we completed a number of projects including: a video featuring the lives of the older men and women attached to The HUBB Activity Centre, Shore Rd., a 5-minute promotional video encapsulating our work during the Residency, recruited the cast members and creative team for our large-scale Community Play, PRIDE OF THE SHORE (POTS) by Gary Mitchell, began the pre-production work for POTS, began the preparatory work on a new Cultural Heroes mural for Nth. Queen St. etc.

We produced a new play THE MAN WHO SWALLOWED A DICTIONARY by Robert Niblock for production at the Lyric Theatre and on tour.

We revived our production of IN THE NAME OF THE SON by Martin Lynch & Richard O'Rawe for 6 performances at the Auckland Arts festival, New Zealand.

We made our initial contacts and discussions with community leaders in the New Lodge area in preparation for our next Green Shoot Residency in New Lodge (Sept 2024 – August, 2026).

Financial Review

Green Shoot received funding from CRC, Dept. Of Foreign Affairs, Community Lottery, British Enkalon, The AE Harvey Trust and Ulster Garden Villages.

We have applied for further funding from TBUC Stormont and DFA for next year's programming.

Whilst we have a relatively small deficit for the year, the Company's financial situation is relatively robust, given the ongoing uncertainty of arts funding. We are confident we will raise the necessary funds for the 2024 – 2025 period.

Financial Results

At the end of the financial year the company has assets of £91,082 (2023 - £95,299) and liabilities of £15,225 (2023 - £23,567). The net assets of the company have increased by £4,125.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Board continuously reviews risks to which the Company is exposed, in particular those relating to operations and finance of the Company and are satisfied that good financial practice is in place and systems are in place to mitigate the exposure to major risk. The company remain artist led and whilst our Artistic Director works on a voluntary basis, we have had the luxury of 2 full-time employees – Project Officer, Nikki Turner and Mary Bailie, Administrator and a part-time Community Engagement Officer, Aaron Cathcart. Its production model has developed to include co-production and participatory approaches ensuring relevance to local communities. Project plans are in place for the last year of our Tiger's Bay residency. In addition the company will put plans in place for the production of the two new commissions for the financial years of 2024 – 2026. The company will continue to enable participatory professional theatre, and theatre which engages localised community audiences as well as existing theatre going audiences. A Strategy document is in place and has been upgraded to take us up to 2026.

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Trustees

The trustees who served throughout the financial year, except as noted, were as follows:

William Barr
Martin William McBurney
Catherine McCullough-Jayat
Kathryn Baird

In accordance with the Articles of Association, the directors retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards

The company engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. Green Shoot Productions subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Companies Act 2006
- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)

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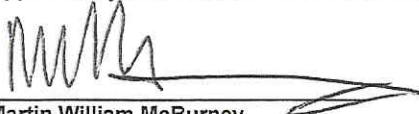
- The Companies Act 2006
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Reserves

The trustees have developed and adopted a reserves policy that seeks to increase the unrestricted income reserve fund equivalent to six months of annual reporting costs. GSP current policy is to hold 10% of net earned income to increase the unrestricted income reserve to this level. The reserves are restricted and to be used with board approval.

The trustee recognise that financial performance will fluctuate between surpluses and deficits but the medium term strategy is to see an overall trend of reserves growth and increasing financial stability.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 25 June 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Martin William McBurney
Director