

Sion Mills Community Association

Trustees' Report

For year ended 31st March 2024

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2024.

Trustees

The committee of the group, known as the trustees for the purposes of charity law, who served during the year end up to the date of this report are set out on page 3.

Charitable Objects

The group provides a welcoming community centre for all. We offer a number of activities to include social events for senior citizens- coffee mornings, bingo; provide classes to include arts & crafts, music and dance; health and well-being; youth facilities – youth clubs for 5 yrs- 12 yrs; summer scheme, day trips; work along with government agencies to provide onsite services such as citizens advice, health, housing, education colleges.

The direct benefits include- improved health and well-being of the inhabitants of the village and hinterland – these benefits include reduced isolation especially within senior citizens, increasing social interaction, develops friendships and improves physical and mental awareness. Improves educational skills – providing the community with classes and education on their doorstep and working with agencies to ensure certification courses are run. Improved facilities and services for the citizens – offering a welcome centre open to all, providing services through agencies i.e advice services, health services, social services. These benefits are and will be demonstrated through the continued evaluation of all programmes / classes run at the community hall – we will promote and carry out or assist in promotion and carrying out research through surveys, workshops and interval

discussions with our groups. The group is a registered charity with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland since 16th August 2021 under registration number 107755.

Organisational Structure

The day-to-day management of the charity is carried out by the Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary and the trustees meet on a regular basis to inform and discuss all matters concerning the charity to enable the trustees to make all the policy decision.

Review of activities and achievements

The Statement of Receipts and Payments on Page 9 sets out the results for the year. The purpose of the funds is outline in the notes to the financial statements.

The Trustees are indebted to the funding bodies for their support and the opportunities the funding provides to the group. Due to the pandemic many of our activities were curtailed and with some not recommencing.

Over the year we have been successful in the delivery of a number of programmes: Summer scheme where up to 50 children attended and we had a range of entertainment and activities on site. £1,420 funding from NI Housing Executive Cohesion Fund supported the costs of onsite activities for the summer scheme. This money was paid directly to the suppliers by NIHE and wasn't received as an income to SMCA.

Youth club for 5 years – 12 years old on Friday's 4pm – 6pm with up to 40 young people in attendance on a weekly basis.

A Christmas Programme to include a Senior Christmas Dinner and Dance funded by PHA thru the Clear Project and Rural Housing Association; a family fun Christmas event with Christmas Characters, Games, Magic Show Face Painting and Fun Farm funded by Derry City & Strabane District Council. A Senior's Health & Wellbeing

Programme to include flower arranging, intergenerational craft workshops, pottery painting, glass painting and light exercise also kids storytelling and movement

sessions funded by PHA thru the Clear Project.

Derry City & Strabane District Council provided grants totalling in £6,431 to include the above Christmas Programme elements and also for light, heat, insurance, phone, broadband and a number of classes such as senior exercise movement classes, kids learning and education session with youth arts and crafts.

PHA thru the Clear Project funded the above-mentioned programmes to a total of £2,102. Donations from local businesses in the village helped to provide prizes at the Senior Christmas Dinner. Room Hire has also generated £210 of income.

As with all community groups in Northern Ireland the group continues to have trouble in obtaining long term funding. However, in view of the grants awarded, fundraising and with volunteer support, the trustees are confident that the group can continue its activities and therefore is satisfied that it is appropriate for the financial statements to be prepared on the going concern basis.

Reserves

The statement of Receipts and Payments on page 9 sets out the results for the year. The purpose of the funds is outlined on the notes to the financial statements.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the applicable law and regulations.

Charity Law

Charity law require Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law, the trustees have elected to prepare financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law).

The trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the charity for that year. In preparing the financial statements,

the trustees are required to:

Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently; Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and

Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the group and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the applicable law. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement of disclosure of information to independent examiner

So far as each of the trustees in office at the date of approval of them financial statements are aware:

There is no relevant audit information of which the group's independent examiner is unaware; and

The trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the group's independent examiner is aware of that information.

This report was approved by the trustees on 31st January 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Signature:



Salome Preston

Chairperson



Elaine Griffin

Secretary

