

Worrall Community Association Limited

Trustees' report

The Directors and Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 October 2019. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005 in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

Structure, governance and management

Worrall Community Association is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity. As such, the directors, as defined in the Memorandum and Articles of Association, act as both the directors of the company and the trustees of the charity.

Overall management of the company is the responsibility of the trustees who are elected and co-opted under the memorandum and articles of association. Day to day project activity is carried out by volunteers.

Charitable objects

To further or benefit the residents of Worrall and the neighbourhood, without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions by associating together the said residents and the local authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the residents and to establish or secure the establishment of a Community Centre (Worrall Memorial Hall) and to maintain and manage the same in furtherance of these objects.

Included in the above objects is the responsibility of the Charity to support, maintain, improve, innovate in, and commit to the use of the Hall and any other premises owned or occupied by the Charity.

Achievement and performance

This has been a challenging year for everyone and our thoughts and best wishes go out to everyone in this, and every other, community. What people are doing shows very much that there really is such a thing as "community" and the way things have changed – and continue to evolve – points to stronger ties developing and surely remaining.

The Memorial Hall has been used by most of the various groups that have been a part of our specific community: Yoga, Afternoon Teas, Guides, Line Dancing, Dance, Keep Fit and Mother and Toddler. Due to lock-down restrictions it has been difficult for some groups to meet. We feel sure, come better times, all groups will be back. Again we thank these groups for their continued support which is vital to maintain upkeep of the hall and socialising within the community. We are very grateful to Dance Dynamique; Fiona has managed to maintain a strong presence in the hall but now, January 2021, she is currently unable to continue for the time being.

We have two new Directors – Helen and Jane – who are very welcome. They bring a new impetus to our group. Sadly, Francis has resigned; we thank her for the time and effort she has put in to looking after the hall and the responsibility she has taken to ensure the Association continues strongly into the future. Judith has taken over, from Janet, looking after bookings. Thanks to Janet for her sterling work over the years in this role. Janet continues as a Director. Thanks to the Festival team who managed to successfully produce an online Festival and to Jane who is bringing the Association up to speed with a Facebook presence and helping maintain the web-site. A "Grow Show" was produced online as an experiment; hopefully we may be able to extend online activities. A lot of work went into ensuring the hall was Covid compliant. We were able to get on top of this quickly, thanks to Helen and the other Directors who spent a long time interpreting Government guidelines and formulating a policy for the hall. Thanks also to the groups using the hall who accepted the new procedures and took care to help us operate successfully, given the restrictions. Production and circulation of a news-letter continues. This seems to be welcome and is an addition to any information published online.

The Directors now meet online by Zoom, regularly, coordinating necessary actions to maintain the hall and consider its future. Our financial state is healthy. We are fortunate that the solar panels bring in a very useful income. This is likely to be the only reliable funding in the foreseeable future. The hall cannot, at present, be used for parties and other social gatherings. With no bonfire, gala or other fund raising activities possible we need to think how this will affect us longer term.

Maintenance of the hall remains a priority. We have new flooring in the small room, currently used as a library. Repairs have been done to the fire door and the radiators have been refurbished. Judith has made curtains for the windows and hall doorway; she is very skilful and has done a fabulous job. Thank you Judith. We intend to get a new shed for storage very soon so have had a base laid near the existing storage unit. The hedges have been cut back.

Thank you also to Worrall Post Office whose continued help with fund-raising is welcome. Thanks to everyone who has contributed in whatever way they could this year. Thank you all.

Reserves policy

Worrall Community Association needs reserves for the following reasons:

To meet contractual liabilities should the organisation have to close. This includes amounts due to creditors and commitments under contracts and leases.

To meet unexpected costs like breakdown of essential equipment and legal costs defending the charity's interest.

To replace equipment as it wears out.

To ensure that the charity can continue to provide a stable and quality service to those who need it.

To provide working capital when funding is paid in arrears and to place the charity in a position where it could bid for funding that may be paid in arrears.

From time to time charitable funding may have certain restrictions which mean that by law it must be held in a restricted reserve until it is spent in line with the funding agreement.