

# Worcester Play Council

Report of the Trustees  
and  
Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020

## **Worcester Play Council**

### **Report of the trustees for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020**

#### **Structure, Governance and Management**

##### **Governing Document**

The Charity is governed by a constitution adopted on 16<sup>th</sup> November 1989 and amended on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2002. Charitable status was first registered on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1990.

##### **Recruitment and Appointment of the Committee of Management**

The Management Committee is elected annually for a period of one year but may be re-elected. The Committee can have up to 12 ordinary members. The City Council representatives are appointed annually by the City Council. The Chairperson is only allowed to remain in office for 3 years but can be re-elected.

##### **Related Parties**

The Charity is guided by both local and national policy in so far as it follows the Charity's objectives. Worcester City Council has a high degree of influence on the Charity in ensuring that policies, as defined the Charity's objectives, are properly pursued.

##### **Objectives**

The object of the Charity is to provide facilities for recreation or leisure time occupations for persons under the age of 16 years who are resident in the City of Worcester. Such facilities being that which the beneficiaries have need by reason of their youth, social or economic circumstances and which will improve the conditions of life of the beneficiaries by promoting their physical, mental and spiritual well-being.

##### **Chairs Report**

This year, despite starting and ending with challenges and difficulties, proved to be quite successful. At the beginning of the year we had not identified a play worker to organise and deliver any projects and play schemes, with our contracted partner agency, Perdiswell Young Peoples Leisure Club (PYPLC). After a number of unsuccessful interviews and meetings with possible candidates, PYPLC offered to undertake their contracted work, using existing staff, by increasing their hours. Thank you to Phil Weston for organising this and to Hayley Tally for taking on the work. We were able to deliver Fun Squads, during the summer and the half term holidays, using a small, dedicated team of workers and volunteers. In addition, we held a free play celebration on National Play Day, this time in Cripplegate Park. This was a remarkably busy event that was very well received.

By the end of 2019, we felt that we were beginning to overcome the previous difficulties, resulting from not having an identified play development worker.

We considered that we had found a good working model for the delivery of play in Worcester. With PYPLC, not only our contracted play provider, but now using their experienced staff to deliver play, we could move to considering more play projects, and to raising the profile of Worcester Play Council, within the City.

During the year fundraising became crucial, as the Worcester City Council grant came to an end, with no indication that there would be ongoing funding. Fortunately, funds were raised from both local and National organisations, with a grant from the Lottery, Community Fund as well as from the Co-op Stores who had chosen us as one of their charities. In addition, the National Playday celebration was supported by a number of County Councillors, from their divisional funds.

As 2020 began we were working on publicity and information leaflets, writing our strategy for the next 3 years, and planning for play events in the Summer. We were preparing for our annual programme of Fun Squads, to commence at Easter. Sadly, as the financial year was drawing to a close, the Covid19 pandemic reached us and we shelved all plans for play, for the foreseeable future.

## **Public Benefit**

In planning our activities for the year, the trustees kept in mind the Charities Commission guidance on public benefit. The focus on our activities remains supporting play facilities, the expansion of resources, and the provision of support and information to facilitate quality play across the City. This is with the intention of providing children and young people with a playful way of improving their physical, mental and spiritual well-being.

## **Financial Review**

The Charity continues to be dependent upon grants and donations with no guaranteed income stream and this has been identified as a major risk area for the Charities continued existence.

## **Core Reserves Policy**

The Management committee aim to accumulate sufficient restricted reserves to cover normal operating expenses for six months should funding cease. It is, however, anticipated that this reserve will be depleted on occasions such that shorter period of expenses would be covered.

Use of core reserves: -

1. To support funds, grants until expected monies are actually cleared.
2. To cover unexpected costs on a one-off basis.
3. To cover years of low funding, with expectations of replacing in the future financial years.

All decisions regarding the use of the core fund will be made by the finance committee with a minimum attendance of 3 people and a majority decision.

### **Trustees' responsibilities in evaluation to the financial statements.**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- *select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently*
- *observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP*
- *make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent*
- *state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements*
- *prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue to operation.*

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts Reports Regulations 2008) and the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking responsible steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees on: 5<sup>th</sup> July 2020



Heater Giannasi – Chairperson

### **Elected Trustees:**

Chair: Heater Giannasi  
Vice Chair: Christine Cawthorne  
Secretary: Matthew Rogers  
Treasure: Phil Weston OBE

### **Officers:**

Paul Edwards  
Sarah Walton  
Michelle Buckland

## **Worcester Play Council**

Statement of Financial Activities  
For the Year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020

Incoming resources from generated funds

Grants and Donations

	£
Worcester City Council	13,000.00
Big Lottery	10,000.00
Co-op Community Fund	7,042.63
Divisional Fund	2,000.00
Margaret Westwood	1,500.00
William Cadbury	500.00
Baron Davenports	700.00
Smile Fund	500.00
Other	100.00

**Total 35,342.63**

Cost of Generating Funds

Play Contract	6,818.00
Fun Squads	5,875.00
Grants	2,914.41
Equipment	1,199.00
Insurance	843.92
Play Day	2751.00
Publicity	673.56
Admin	117.00

**Total 21,191.89**

## **Worcester Play Council**

Statement of Financial Activities  
For the Year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020

Analysis of Grants:

Worcester Community Trust	1,540.00
Worcs Parent Carers Council	220.00
St Pauls Church	150.00
Worcester Carnival	100.00
Medway Play Group	200.00
St Johns Library	144.41
Wild and Rooted	360.00
OASIS	200.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,914.41</b>

**Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2020**

2018/9	<b><u>Assets</u></b>	2019/20
£		£
	<b><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>	
	<b>Bank Accounts</b>	
16,516.94	<b>Unity Trust Bank</b>	28,861.68