Unaudited Accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020

Registered charity number 1031308

Rayner & Co
Chartered Certified Accountants
6 Arundel Place
Scarborough
North Yorkshire
YO11 1TX

Information

Accountants Rayner & Co

Chartered Certified Accountants

6 Arundel Place Scarborough North Yorkshire YO11 1TX

Business address St Michael's Youth Hall

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Scarborough North Yorkshire YO11 2HN

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Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Wheatcroft Playgroup on the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020

I report on the accounts of Wheatcroft Playgroup for the year ended 31 August 2020 which are set out on pages 5 to 7.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect,:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Robert D Thorpe
Rayner & Co
Chartered Certified Accountants
6 Arundel Place
Scarborough
North Yorkshire
YO11 1TX

19 November 2020

Trustees report for the year ended 31 August 2020

Registered charity number 1031308

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020.

Charity Trustees who served during the year Elected by parents/carers

Karl Ward Chairperson and Safeguarding Officer

Lauren Temple Secretary
Sarah Dennis Treasurer

Stacey Silby Committee member

Stacey Ward Committee member (stood down December 2019)
Harriet Smith Committee member (stood down April 2020)

Amanda Campbell Manager and Committee member

Rhona Marshall Staff member

Stacey Newbold Committee member (appointed 23 October 2019)

Meriem Ouchtati Committee member (appointed 23 October 2019)

Type of structure

Wheatcroft Playgroup is a charity constituted as a trust. The transfer of information relative to the trust from outgoing to new trustees is done so under the guidance of the preschool manager. Where necessary, additional training is provided to enable the trustees to fulfil their duties.

Objectives and activities

Wheatcroft Playgroup aims to enhance and develop the education of children from 2 years to statutory school age, using the Early Years Foundation Stage as the curriculum basis for which to do so.

The trustees meet regularly to discuss and plan the operational activities of the charity. They also have a closed Facebook Messenger group to discuss plans for preschool more informally in-between meetings. In planning our activities for the year, we have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. We work closely with parents/carers and the local community to maximise the educational benefit for the children in our care.

The trustees work on an entirely voluntary basis except for the manager and one staff member. The manager takes a role on the committee so that they can co-ordinate committee roles and changeovers each AGM and as the Nominated Person for Ofsted. The manager and other staff member do not have any input or vote in any major decision-making, such as wages, and understand the reasons why.

Achievements and performance

Preschool achievements:-

This year has been totally strange and the events from March 2020 could never have been planned for due to the pandemic. The results from the questionnaires in September 2019 provided evidence that families were happy with the services, activities and resources available, and some commented reasons why. The questionnaire due out in Summer 2020 obviously did not happen.

Preschool hosted an Early Years Alliance training event in September and were due to host more across the year which unfortunately had to be cancelled but it was a huge privilege to again work closely with the EYA at a local level.

Numbers at preschool at the beginning of September 2019 were encouraging and by Spring 2020 had built to a good level, meaning staffing hours could be increased. However, due to the pandemic, we closed for 6 months from 20 March 2020. Moving forward into the next academic year, we kept staffing the same to adjust to our new Covid-friendly regimes and this has paid off with 14 new starters for September 2020.

Families continue to recommend preschool to their families and friends and our Facebook pages seem to be the most popular means of advertising. As we could not do an open day, we amended our Summer Term end date so that staff officially started the summer holidays a week earlier. This meant they could return to preschool the week commencing 31 August 2020 to show families round and hold short stay and play sessions for those worried about returning.

Wednesday's Family Fun, once per month, continued until February 2020. As in previous years, numbers varied each month and, again, we made a loss on these sessions. However, they were still deemed valuable for families whose children were due to start.

Fundraising for the short term was successful. We raised money through the Firefighters Charity £ 68.00, the Christmas fundraiser £ 368.00 and a small amount through Amazon Smile £ 5.00. The money raised through the Easyfundraising website has rolled over. The fundraising money from this year was due to be invested in Zumba in the summer term and new long-lasting outdoor resources. However, due to the pandemic, we would not go ahead with Zumba and we also decided it was not the right time to spend such a huge amount of money and it will be used in the following academic year.

Due to lockdown, staff have had numerous training opportunities over the year: Early Talk Boost training; 2 staff completed their Level 3 in Speech and Language; Paediatric First Aid, and online courses from Educare and the Open University. These courses have ranged in subject from providing support throughout Covid and returning to the new normal, to actually how to support children's mental health and those on the autistic spectrum to counter-terrorism! These courses have been mainly free due to the pandemic. However, Makaton training was paid for and funded by preschool, using Early Years Pupil Premium money.

Lockdown from March to July saw many challenges and staff and committee rose to meet them all. Families were encouraged to communicate with staff and peers through a newly created Facebook closed page. This gave families support and provided the children with the opportunity to keep in touch with their friends. Staff, and eventually other parents, started to share activities and ideas as well. As a team we put together home learning bags and resources which we knew the children would like and delivered these to the families in April and June. This also gave the whole team the opportunity to see a few of the families face-to-face over lockdown and helped in the transition back to preschool in September.

Committee achievements:-

The committee has worked hard to ensure the smooth running of the charity and has supported the staff in the provision of childcare and education in the local community, especially through lockdown. The joint decision to remain closed was decided after all who have a stake in preschool read the risk assessments and surveyed the families. The committee is especially supportive in fundraising where they met in November and December 2019 to brainstorm ideas and allocate roles. The committee undertook basic safeguarding training and an understanding of what it means to be a committee through Educare on starting their role. Some committee members were also available on occassion to help out when staff were unwell which was very much appreciated. Karl, as chair, also supports preschool by testing the fire equipment and completing the PAT testing each year.

Financial review

The charity has no specific policy on reserves. However, it is a non-profit making organisation with a financial reserve allocated to redundancy (if required) or to support the setting in keeping open when numbers are very low. A large sum is currently being kept aside as there are areas which will need some repair work carrying out over the next few years, decorating inside, the flooring and also some areas outdoors.

This year, the Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) money has been used to purchase resources and support training. One staff member completed Level 2 and 3 in Makaton and also carried out the training to support with the Early Talk Boost sessions. Using the EYPP money, we were also able to provide Yoga sessions to all the children over the spring term. Assessments at the halfway point highlighted the success of all of the above and we hope they also encourage the next cohort of children to make good progress from their starting points.

The principal sources of funding are income from parental fees and NYCC for 2 year olds (in certain circumstances) as well as 3 & 4 year old universal and extended funding.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:-

Karl Ward Chairperson

14 December 2020

Income and expenditure statement for the year ended 31 August 2020

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 £	2019 £
Income	L	L	L	L
Parental fee income	8,173	_	8,173	17,311
NYCC funding	68,046	-	68,046	63,364
Family Fun	44	-	44	77
Registration fees	250	-	250	175
Fundraising				
Christmas fair	368	-	368	237
Clothing recycling	68	-	68	55
Miscellaneous fundraising	45	-	45	-
Commission				
Photographs	42	-	42	-
Other income				
Sale of items	13	-	13	-
Supply cover	346	-	346	90
Uniforms	142	-	142	190
Bank interest received	39	-	39	31
Total income carried forward	77,576		77,576	81,530

Income and expenditure statement (continued) for the year ended 31 August 2020

	Unrestricted		2020	2019
	£	£	£	£
Total income brought forward	77,576		77,576	81,530
Expenses				
Wages	55,616	-	55,616	52,806
Staff pension	763	-	763	511
Rent	1,374	-	1,374	1,260
Water charges	192	-	192	192
Snacks, etc	187	-	187	329
Toys, equipment and materials	1,184	-	1,184	4,351
PLA membership and insurance	725	-	725	718
Telephone	590	-	590	511
Printing, stationery and postage	82	-	82	138
Advertising	-	-	-	85
Accountancy	1,920	-	1,920	1,746
Professional fees	1,752	-	1,752	1,284
Training	240	-	240	544
Cleaning materials	331	-	331	338
Outings	-	-	_	29
Uniforms	442	_	442	539
Repairs and renewals	403	_	403	3,387
Zumba classes	_	_	_	440
Miscellaneous expenses	243	_	243	384
Depreciation on office equipment	434	-	434	226
Total expenses	66,478	-	66,478	69,818
Funds				
Surplus for the year	11,098	-	11,098	11,712
Total funds brought forward	65,224	-	65,224	53,512
Total funds carried forward	76,322		76,322	65,224
Signed on behalf of the Trustees:-				
Karl Ward		Sarah Denn	is	

14 December 2020

Chairperson

Treasurer

Balance sheet as at 31 August 2020

	2020		2019		
	£	£	£	£	
Fixed assets					
Furniture and equipment at cost	2,452		1,261		
Additions at cost	-		1,190		
	2,452		2,451		
Depreciation to date	727		500		
	1,725		1,951		
Depreciation this year	434		226		
		1,291		1,725	
Current assets					
Cash at community account	56,657		46,179		
Cash at money manager account	20,059		20,019		
	76,716		66,198		
Current liabilities					
Loan from Church	-		450		
Sundry creditors and accruals	1,685		2,249		
	1,685		2,699		
Net current assets		75,031		63,499	
Net assets		76,322		65,224	
Reserves					
Unrestricted funds		76,322 ———		65,224	
Signed on behalf of the trustees:-					
Karl Ward Chairperson		Sarah Dennis Treasurer			

14 December 2020