



Charity no: 1173160
Treasurer Report 2019-2020

1. Annual accounts

Our income in 2019-2020 totalled £87,877 and is paid by London Borough of Tower Hamlets Council (LBTH) for funded places for 2- and 3-year-olds. Our expenditure totalled £116,198 the majority of which is staff wages, following other costs such as resources and play equipment's.

We have commenced paying 3% pension contributions for all staff and our forecasts indicate that our current income and reserves should cover this additional annual cost going forward, however, this is based on the current take-up of places and staffing levels.

The committee and staff have worked hard this year to increase the take up of places but as the only income stream, we should look to review our capacity to take children who are eligible for 30 hours, given we offer morning and afternoon sessions. The playgroup is constituted to take children up to the age of 5 years old. Another avenue to explore is to take private children, however this needs to be balanced with prioritising families with most need. The playgroup has been a vital service in the local community supporting vulnerable families and children with additional needs.

All staff have worked hard during this pandemic ensuring that children and families are kept well informed and by following the government guidelines for COVID 19.

This committee has faced other pressing priorities such as the Covid 19 pandemic and therefore this year the committee has been unable to focus on fund raising. This could be an excellent source for play equipment and could be made up of cake sales, sponsored walks, applying for small lottery grants. (Awards for All - 10k.) etc.

Recommendations

- I. review our capacity to take children who are eligible for 30 hours;
- II. To forecast income and expenditure for 2020-2021 and ensure all financial commitments can be met;
- III. To develop a funding strategy;
- IV. To continue to allocate funds towards improving the equipment, training and resources available to staff and children;

2. Review of financial controls

The committee asked Williams Giles Ltd to carry out our accounts for this financial year. After the examination of the accounts William Giles have reported that there are no concerns in connection to the charity.

As a committee we have a duty to manage the charity's resources responsibly and so the priority for the new committee will be to improve and strengthen the financial control systems and ensure segregation of duty for proper checking, authorisation, and accountability. To begin this process, we have moved to on-line banking and payments and committee signatories on the account.

Recommendation

- i. As a key priority, a finance policy should be written and enacted, with all relevant staff and committee members being aware of it and it being readily available.

3. Payroll

We have appointed a new payroll provider for Allen Gardens Playgroup. Pro's assist has been given the contract for a year starting from Jan 2020-Jan 2021 at an annual cost of £585.

4. Pension

All staff have opted into the NEST pension scheme. Our staff pension scheme continues to be funded by 3%.

5. Building refurbishment & future rent

The committee are very keen to update the building and enhance the children's learning environment. The committee have set aside monies from the general funds for refurbishment and future rent. The building was deemed not fit for purpose in 2015 by LBTH. There have been ongoing discussions with the Council about how this will be paid for, given this is a Council building. The work will consist of new roof, new windows, doors and some internal wall refurbishments.

Similarly, the Council now wish to charge the playgroup commercial rent providing that we are given a lease. The playgroup has never previously paid rent. The committee along with other community nurseries have been lobbying the council to be exempt from this given that we are a community-serving provision receiving 100% government funding for 2- and 3-year-olds.

Hizbul Deena

On behalf of Allen Gardens Playgroup

27/05/2021

ALLEN GARDENS PLAYGROUP

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Allen Gardens Playgroup ('the Charity')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the Charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the Charity has prepared the accounts in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed:

Alexander Ffrench

Williams Giles Professional Services Ltd
Chartered Accountants
Sittingbourne
Kent
ME10 5BH

Dated:

FCCA DChA