

The Cultural Partnership: 'more arts.'

Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) no. 1154785

Document last updated: Thursday, 29 September 2022



Trustees Annual Report 2021-2022

Background

The Cultural Partnership is an independent, arts development charity which benefits people of all ages by enabling community hands-on arts opportunities, curating bespoke community exhibitions, transforming empty shops into temporary arts spaces, supporting and providing opportunities for artists, delivering a 'what's on' website and a Local Arts Loan programme. The ultimate beneficiaries of our charitable activities are the residents of the broader area around Wokingham Borough in Berkshire.

The Cultural Partnership is managed by a group of volunteer Trustees.

The charity promotes itself using the brand 'more arts.' and that is how the charity is referred to in much of this report. In our literature we refer to ourselves as The Cultural Partnership: '*more arts.*'.

Income arises primarily from local artists using our facilities, fees for arts activities commissioned by Wokingham Town Council, fees from companies & other organisations as clients of our Local Arts Loan programme, commission from sales recorded at UK retailers including Amazon Smile, donations submitted through InvestMyCommunity and LocalGiving.com, plus public donations at our Hands-on-Arts events.

We sponsor local arts activities, especially to help vulnerable young people, through a simple grant application process. Applications are assessed & approved by the Trustees.

Expenditure pays for contracted staff services, local artists and local arts suppliers. Delivery of most of our activities relies on volunteers. The Local Arts Loan is administered, promoted and delivered by one contracted part-time person. We have no employees.

Key Activities during 2021-2022

The activities of the charity are delivered by its volunteers who work with the Trustees on every project. Normally we deliver a range of activities throughout the year, but the Covid-19 Pandemic reduced some of the 2021-2022 planned events.

The **Living Advent Calendar** is organised by 'more arts.' in conjunction with Wokingham Town Council from 1st-24th December each year, every day leading up to Christmas. In December 2021 we arranged a reduced series of 4 musical performances in Wokingham Town Hall. We admitted a limited socially distanced audience and live-streamed each event for the wider public. Donations at each event were accepted on behalf of the Wokingham Mayor's Charity: 3rd Wokingham (Mayor's Own) Scout Group. The performances helped us keep the 'Living Advent Calendar' event alive in everyone's memory, so that we can run proper events in 2022.

The **Hands-on-Arts** marquee normally hosts local artists at local village fairs/fetes across the Wokingham Borough, (Wokingham May Fayre, Wokingham Well-Being Event, Wokingham Town Council Arts Day, Twyford Donkey Derby, Shinfield Community Fund Day, Finchampstead Fun Day, Spencer's Wood Carnival). As in 2020, all these events were cancelled for 2021. We hope to revive the Hands-on-Arts programme for the summer of 2022.

The Local Arts Loan Programme, provides 'A-Level standard' artwork sourced from local secondary schools for hire to commercial businesses and public sector organisations, who pay a small weekly sum per piece. Despite the pandemic, we were able to continue the Local Arts Loan programme during 2021-2022; all but one of our existing clients retained their artworks throughout the year, though we were unable to offer opportunities for them to change their collections. During 2021-2022 we invoiced Local Arts Loan clients for £11,780, for which we are very grateful. Most clients again chose to donate an additional weekly sum, which was in total £2,752 during 2021-2022, to our ring-fenced Legacy Fund (see below). Client income is shared with the schools that provide the artwork. During the year £4,257 of the Local Arts Loan client income was paid to local schools, which they usually reinvest in their art departments.

In addition to hiring artwork to paying clients, during the past 3 years we have extended the programme to install artwork free-of-charge in local care homes. We began with just 2 care homes in 2017 and the programme now provides paintings on a rotational basis, one piece at a time to each of 15 care homes in the local area. This programme has proved very popular among care home residents. We refer to this programme as A4A (Art for the 4th Age). Whilst no hire fee is charged, we credit schools their share of a reduced fee which would have been earned from a paying client.

Legacy fund. Legacy Fund income arises from Local Arts Loan (see above) clients as a voluntary donation additional to their loan fees.

During 2021-2022 demand for the fund was reduced due to the pandemic, so we paid nothing from the fund to sponsor activities during the year.

Empty Shops. The charity has strived to offer local artists a venue for exhibition and presentation of their work to the public. Unfortunately, during the past year suitable empty shops have been difficult to find, and the pandemic prevented us finding any suitable premises.

During 2021-2022 we did not open a pop-up art gallery.

Marketing & Promoting 'more arts.' Locally 'more arts.' maintains a website (www.morearts.org.uk) to promote both its own activities and the wide range of music, theatre, creative arts, film, photography and book events that occur locally. In particular, the arts events pages promote online the wide variety of arts events delivered by local people.

Fewer events than usual took place during the year, owing to the pandemic. But we were able to promote several online events, especially those arranged by local libraries and local theatres. We expect the number of local events to increase markedly next year.

Community events: We sponsor 'arts related' activities throughout Wokingham Borough, but the pandemic limited the scope of what we could support this year:

- Sponsor 'Wokingham Book Festival 2021', for schoolchildren, to encourage reading events at local schools. Most of the events were arranged virtually.
- Sponsor 'Young Adults Authors In Schools' events, enabling school children to meet authors virtually.

Fundraising: We encourage private donations through LocalGiving.com and InvestMyCommunity, both of whom collect Gift Aid on our behalf, and we earn a sales commission on online sales made through Amazon Smile.

'more arts.' Partners

'more arts.' works with various community partners and would particularly like to thank Wokingham Town Council and our local artists and performers who share their talent and expertise to enable more people to access more arts activities. We also appreciate the support of Wokingham Borough Council and our many clients of our Local Arts Loan programme.

A special "thank you" is due to the people of Wokingham Borough who have supported and encouraged us in our activities.

Calendar

The Cultural Partnership's year runs from April to March. This report and the financial accounts summary (see later) refer to the year from April 6th, 2021 to April 5th, 2022.

Early in each year the Cultural Partnership agrees a Business Plan and estimates the costs of a set of deliverable programmes for the coming year. The Business Plan is maintained and adapted as the year progresses. Accounts are maintained to show spending on each major activity and sources of funds throughout the year. Detailed financial reports are presented to the Trustees at each monthly meeting and to the Annual General Meeting, normally held each year in August or September.

Governance

The Partnership is managed by a group of volunteer Trustees, elected annually by members who attend the Annual General Meeting, who meet monthly to manage the charity.

We fund training courses for Trustees to help improve their skills, including Risk Assessment, Data Protection, Trustee Roles & Responsibilities,

During the year 2021-2022, the volunteer Trustees were:

- Jim Stockley (Chairman)
- Robert Grindley (Treasurer)
- Mick McNicholas
- Martin Beecher
- Robin Scurlock
- Gregor Murray

Finance

The charity is not registered for VAT. VAT paid is tracked and charged to our reserves at the end of each year.

Through two insurance policies with BHIB, the charity is fully insured for Trustees Indemnity and for general business risks.

Until January 2022 we benefited from having a temporary storage area in a disused shop unit which the landlord provided to us free of rent, in Wokingham, where we stored materials for our outdoor activities. The building is due for redevelopment. We were required to vacate the premises in January 2022. From January we've rented a secure space of 130 sq.ft. from a commercial storage company in Wokingham.

Employees

The Cultural Partnership has no paid employees.

Contracted Services

The Cultural Partnership contracted services during the year from:

- Sian Rollings

The Charity also relies upon volunteers to help run events throughout the year.

Key Goals for 2022-2023

As the UK recovers from the pandemic, we will in 2022-2023, restart many of the activities we had hoped to deliver in 2021-2022.

- Key programmes for 2022-2023
 - o Living Advent Calendar 2022, with a limited series of live events
 - o Local Arts Loan programme, including A4A
 - o Hands-on-Arts summer programme 2022 for very young people
 - o Legacy Arts Fund for projects helping vulnerable young people
 - o Empty Shop Gallery exhibitions (subject to finding pop-up shop premises)
 - o Expand our activity in Instagram and Facebook to promote ourselves
 - o Maintain local arts events website at www.morearts.org.uk
- Recruit more volunteers to support the Partnership
- Carefully manage funds & expenditure to keep a healthy cash balance through the year to ensure our financial survival

The Cultural Partnership –Annual Accounts 2021-2022

CULTURAL PARTNERSHIP: More Arts			As at:	05 April 2022	05 April 2021
BALANCE SHEET				2021-2022	2020-2021
ASSETS					
FIXED assets (computers & software)	£	553.48			
CURRENT Assets: Cash HSBC Business & Charity a/c's	£	44,525.21			
Inc. ring-fenced Legacy Fund £9144.57			£	45,078.69	£ 50,360.32
Debtors (see NOTE 1):					
Various	£	8,300.99			
			£	8,300.99	£ 19.62
TOTAL ASSETS			£	53,379.68	£ 50,379.94
LIABILITIES					
Creditors:					
Various	£	179.00			
			£	179.00	£ -
TOTAL LIABILITIES			£	179.00	£ -
NET ASSETS			£	53,200.68	£ 50,379.94
CULTURAL PARTNERSHIP FUNDS (Capital & Reserves)				2021-2022	2020-2021
Funds at start of year	£	50,379.94			
Surplus (-loss) for the year	£	2,820.74			
Funds at end of year			£	53,200.68	£ 50,379.94
INCOME/EXPENDITURE				2021-2022	2020-2021
INCOME					
Commissioned work (Local Arts Loan clients)	£	14,532.00			
Commission from WTC (Living Advent Calendar)	£	-			
Income from sales & fees (art galleries, etc.)	£	-			
WLAC Donations	£	97.99			
'more arts.' Donations	£	712.80			
Other income	£	207.92			
TOTAL	£	15,550.71			
VAT Received	£	-			
Less depreciation	-£	201.27			
Exclude debtors from previous year	-£	19.62			
Gain (loss) on sale of assets	£	-			
TOTAL INCOME			£	15,329.82	£ 23,111.88
EXPENDITURE					
Contractor Services	£	-			
Printing, Framing	£	-			
Utilities & Rates	£	2,501.51			
Share of Local Arts Loan income to schools	£	4,257.28			
Artist Services	£	155.00			
Legacy Fund projects	£	-			
Community Projects	£	2,800.00			
Sponsored projects	£	92.10			
Suppliers	£	2,256.19			
Marketing	£	-			

Other expenditure	£	-		
TOTAL	£	12,062.08		
VAT Paid	£	447.00		
Exclude creditors from previous year	£	-		
Exclude capital expenditure	£	-		
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£	12,509.08	£	13,659.36
NET INCOME	£	2,820.74	£	9,452.52
CASH FLOW				
			2021-2022	2020-2021
Cash at bank at start of the year	£	49,605.57	£	41,742.60
Net income	£	2,820.74		
Less capital expenditure	£	-		
Depreciation	£	201.27		
Gain on sale of assets	£	-		
Less increase in debtors	-£	8,281.37		
Plus increase in creditors	£	179.00		
Cash at bank at end of year	£	44,525.21	£	49,605.57
Cash flow in (out) for the year	-£	5,080.36	£	7,862.97

NOTE 1: One of the Local Arts Loan programme clients was invoiced £8,268.00 during 2021-2022 but, due an administrative error, the invoice remained unpaid at year end. This accounts for a high value of Debtors and negative cash flow for the year. The invoice was paid in April 2022.