

The Lanchester Partnership
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022
June 2022

CHARITY INFORMATION

Trustees

L. Anderson
M. Atkinson
L. Bell
H. Edwards (Chair)
K. Edwards
S. Grady
M. Gladstone
K. Marshall-Ivens
Prof. D. Smith

Secretary

K. Edwards

Treasurer

D. Smith

Co. Number

03879963

Charity Commission's registered number

11099801

Registered Office

The Community Centre
Newbiggen Lane
Lanchester
Co Durham
DH7 0BP

Bankers

Barclay's Bank
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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Description of the charity's trusts

The Lanchester Partnership ("the Charity") is a registered charity, number 1099801.

The objects of the Charity are defined in Clause 3 of the memorandum of association. These were amended at the AGM in 2020 to include Covid support activities.

Membership

The charity has about 200 members.

Working Groups

At present it works with 8 'working groups'

- Working with Young People Group (currently inactive)
- Transport Group
- Environment Group
- Community Orchard Group
- Monitoring Development Group
- Friends of Longovicium
- "Welcoming Lanchester" Group (currently inactive)
- Social Activities (Village Vita) Gro

Organisation of Funding

There are restricted funds for:

- Working with Young People Group
- Lanchester Village Bus Link
- Environment Group
- Community Orchard Group
- Monitoring Development Group
- Friends of Longovicium
- "Welcoming Lanchester" Group (Loneliness Group)
- Social Activities (Village Vita) Group
- Small Projects
- Covid 1

There is also an unrestricted Core Fund.

Trustees and governance

Trustees are responsible for the management of the Charity and are as named in the previous section Charity Information, as are the Charity's bankers. Annually, an independent examiner inspects the accounts. At each Annual General Meeting ('AGM') up to one third of the Trustees resign by rotation. New Trustees (who may have been nominated by members or by Trustees) are elected at the AGM, at which all members present have a vote. Before the AGM each year the Trustees review the overall balance of experience and skills represented on the Trustee Board, and if it is thought desirable make nominations aimed at improving some aspect of these. Most recent appointments have followed such review and nominations by Trustees.

No new Trustees were appointed last year. We continue to seek individuals with appropriate skills, knowledge and commitment to the charity. This year we intend to renominate both existing Trustees who will resign by rotation (these remain very active in the operation of the Charity) and at least one new Trustee with suitable skills (see agenda).

Banking Arrangement

During the year, one of our working groups (The Environment Group) has requested that Trustees and members consider reviewing banking arrangements to secure the services of a bank which operates within the highest possible standards of environmental and ethical investment practice. There is a motion for consideration in the AGM agenda this year.

Reserves Policy

We aim to have reserves in our Core fund approximately equal to one year's expenditure on core funding, and reserves in the Village Link Bus account equal to one year's expenditure on the bus. We entered the year with reserves a little below this level. This situation continued to the end of the 2021-22 and deteriorated somewhat, despite the ambition announced last year to bring accounts back into compliance with our aim through additional fund raising. This situation has been an inevitable consequence of our inability to mount effective fund raising across the whole of the Covid period.

Moving forward (and since the end of the 21/22 financial year in scope for this report), several effective events and activities have been mounted which will replenish core funds and fund necessary core expenditure on essential (but expensive) core items such as the provision of a modern effective website and insurance cover for all the partnership groups. The situation with the Village Link Bus account appears worse than it is. Confirmation of a large grant from the Area Action Partnership was delayed into the 22/23 financial year. The picture would have appeared much rosier if the payment had appeared in 21/22 accounts.

Activities, awards and achievements

Covid restrictions were lifted in England on 31st March 2022 having been in operation since 25th March 2020. Across this period, the Covid Group delivered outstanding, innovative, and tireless support for shielding and socially vulnerable residents. This work was recently recognized through a prestigious public health award to one of our Trustees (Michelle Atkinson) for her outstanding work coordinating the group. All the active groups adapted well to the extraordinary conditions and have started to resume a more normal programme as restrictions have been progressively eased (see Action Plans and Reports). The Social Activities/Village Vita group was extremely effective in making socially distanced and virtual events available to residents. The Village Bus continued to operate, and with diminished numbers of passengers, was able to deliver social support by undertaking shopping trips and errands on behalf of regular users who were shielding at home. Since Dec 2021 restrictions have progressively eased. This will have a significant positive impact on the range of normal activity that Working Groups can undertake including fund raising events. The numbers of passengers using the bus was already increasing before March 2022 and over time this will have a positive impact on bus finances. The Partnership has weathered the Covid period effectively and demonstrated considerable resilience and imagination in adapting its activities.

Finances for the Year Past

Overall Financial Position (Bank Account)

Opening balance	£20,436	
Closing balance	£12,191	
Total receipts	£11,041	
Total expenditure	£19,284	
Income minus expenditure	-£8,244.	(Reduction of £8,244).

Core Funding

Opening balance	£1,089	
Closing balance	£759	
Total receipts	£1,418	
Total expenditure	£1,748	
Change:	-£330	(Reduction of £330)

The aspiration will be to rebuild core funds to around £1,700 (see reserves policy)

Village Link Bus Funding

Opening balance	£10,855	
Closing balance	£6,765	
Total receipts	£7,731	
Total expenditure	£11,821	
Income minus expenditure	-£4,090.	(Reduction of £4,090)

The aspiration has been to rebuild bus funds to around £12,000 (see reserves policy). This has been addressed through a recent very significant grant from AAP which we knew about in 2021-22 but was not confirmed until after March 31st, 2022.

Fixed assets

The Partnership also has several fixed assets including orchard trees (Orchard Group), and equipment for running public events such as the Fun Run (Village Vita). These assets depreciate and a replacement/replenishment policy is operated by the groups in question plan for the resources in question through their own restricted funds.

Finance and Activity Reports on Working Groups for Past Year (Restricted funds by group fund)

Working with Young People (closing balance £417.84)

There were no recorded activities for this group.

Village Bus (closing balance £6,765.18)

Expenditure exceeded income by £4,090 primarily in consequence of the reduction in passenger numbers, donations and grants during the financial year. Fundraising events could not take place to plug the gap in income. The end of year balance for the purpose of this report show that it dipped further below one year's worth of annual expenditure. A very significant and welcome grant from AAP has been under negotiation and was confirmed soon after the start of the financial year in scope. This will mitigate the situation.

Paradiso Club (Village Vita) (closing balance £481.05)

No activity was possible during the financial year. There are well developed plans for the group to resume activity after April 2022. The club is viable and normally raises significant income which can support other activities.

Friends of Longovicium (closing balance £597.92)

The group is funded through membership fees and donations from members (some of which have been significant in the past and have funded significant academic studies and investigations).

Small Projects (closing balance £636.81)

There was no activity in this fund.

Parish Plan (closing balance £0.00)

This fund now stands at zero and there was no activity during the year. It will be closed.

Village Vita (closing balance £1,039.30)

During the year the balance reduced significantly down from £2,572.40. The Fun Run resumed in September 2021 making use of the funds which had been retained through the lockdown period. Further social/income generating events are now possible so balances should increase in the coming year.

Environment (closing balance £177.12)

Receipts marginally exceeded expenditure for this group. Funding for this group is on an ad hoc basis according to the events which are organised.

Loneliness (closing balance £258.40)

There was no activity in this fund and the first stage of the project is now deemed to be complete. However, there will be a further need to embed and sustain the good practice identified in the wider community. We will retain the fund to support potential activities which support this work.

Covid 19 (closing balance £112.74)

Last year the fund saw the greatest activity within the Partnership with £10,027 receipts and £9,267 expenditure. In the current year there have been no receipts or grants and remaining funding was run down through the provision of Christmas Hampers at Christmas 2021. There are no current plans to resume operations.

Orchard Group (closing balance £945.86)

The group is funded by the contributions of members and normally operates with a healthy balance of around £1,000. Outdoor activities were possible throughout the financial year. A 5-year plan is being developed.

Coordination and Partnership Working

As our charitable name implies, The Lanchester Partnership often works in partnership with the Parish and County Councils and other authorities and organisations. We talk with our local MP. Members have attended formal meetings of organisations. In the past this has included Lanchester Parish council, mid Durham Area Action Partnership (AAP). Lanchester Community Association, PACT (Police and Community Together) NHS Healthwatch and the Clinical Commissioning Group, the Campaign to Protect Rural Lanchester and the Lanchester Medical Centre Patients' Participation Group. There are no formal links, but informal links are carefully maintained. Informally, our individual members are also members of many other organisations.

Review of Major Risks

The Charity is a small organisation, carrying out small projects and handling relatively small amounts of money. The Trustees consider that it is not exposed to any risks that are significant in magnitude or likelihood. Moreover:

- it has public liability insurance
- before carrying out any activity with foreseeable risk it does what it can to minimize that risk, carrying out suitable risk assessments and writing health and safety plans
- every three months accounts are reviewed by the Trustees and
- every year the annual accounts are approved by the Trustees and are independently examined.

Declaration

I declare in my capacity as Chairman of the Trustees that:

- the Trustees have approved the report above, and
- they have authorised me to sign on their behalf



H. Edwards
June 21st, 2022

SOFA
Statement of Financial
Activities
For the Year Ended 31
March 2022

Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources				
Donations, legacies and similar incoming resources	729	6,325	7,054	19,714
Income from activities in furtherance of charitable objectives	189	3,798	3,987	6,345
Investment Income			0	0
Total Incoming Resources	918	10,123	11,041	26,059
Charitable Expenditure				
Grants payable in furtherance of the Charity's objects			0	0
Expenditure on activities in furtherance of the Charity's objects + Insurance Premium	0	17,537	17,537	24,923
Management and administration expenditure	1,747	0	1,747	2,217
	1,747	17,537	19,284	27,140
Internal Transfer				
Transfer Covid to Core, Nov 2021	500	(500)	0	
Net incoming / (outgoing) resources	(329)	(7,914)	(8,243)	(1,081)
Surplus / (deficit) for the financial year	(329)	(7,914)	(8,243)	(1,081)
Total funds brought forward	1,089	19,346	20,435	21,516
Total funds carried forward	760	11,432	12,192	20,435

Balance Sheet
For the Year Ended 31
March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Fixed Assets		150	5,400	5,550	6,209
Current Assets					
Cash at bank and in hand		759	11,432	12,191	20,435
National Lottery Grant Card				-	750
Prepayments and accrued income					
		909	16,832	17,741	27,394
Creditors:					
Amounts falling due within one year		-	13,356	13,356	13,356
NET ASSETS		909	3,476	4,385	14,038
INCOME FUNDS		909	3,476	4,385	14,038

Notes to the Financial Statements

1 Incoming Resources	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2022	Total 2021
Donations	729	6325	7054	19714
Activities Income	689	3298	3987	6345
Total Incoming Resources	1418	9623	11041	26059

Major Grants Awarded / Donations Received

Source	Date	Amount	
DCC Ref. 3863728	07/05/2021	1720.82	Village Bus
Sir James Knott Trust	17/08/2021	2000.00	Village Bus
Lanchester Publications	13/09/2021	229.00	Core
DCC Ref. 3923790	19/10/2021	845.63	Village Bus
M. Gladstone	04/03/2022	250.00	Core
DCC Ref. 3977187	17/03/2022	864.00	Village Bus
DCC Ref. 3979506	17/03/2022	685.94	Village Bus

Small Donations Total 459.00

Total **7054.39**

2 Analysis of resources expended	Total 2022	Total 2021
Expenditure on activities in furtherance of the Charity's objectives + Insurance Premium	£	£
Working with young people	1,025	-
Lanchester Link Bus - see also note 7	11,821	11,914
Paradiso Social Club	139	1,500
Friends of Longovicium	292	1,920
Small Projects	139	-
Parish Plan	-	-
Village Vita	2,623	225
Environment	84	
Community Orchard	691	97
Loneliness Project	-	-
Covid - 19	723	9,267
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	17,537	24,923

3 Management and administration expenses	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£
Printing	988	253
General Expenses	128	583
AGM Hall Hire, etc.	84	23
Companies House Fee	-	13
Zoom meetings	166	57
Insurance see Note 8	-	1,098
Independent Examiner's fee	-	75
Website renewal + Domain name	360	95
Lottery Licence	20	20
	1,746	2,217

4 Internal Transfer

Tesco Partnership Grant	Core	Covid - 19
Transfer Covid to Core, Nov 2021	500	(500)
This transfer was made in November 2021.		

5 Movement on restricted funds

	Working with young people	Lanchester Link Bus	Paradiso Club	Friends of Longov'm	Small Projects	Parish Plan	Village Vita	Environm't	Welcome Lanchester	Covid-19	Orch'd	TOTAL
Incoming Resources	0	7,731	0	402	0	0	1,090	115	0	(500)	785	9,623
Expenditure	1,025	11,821	139	292	139	0	2,623	84	0	723	691	17,537
Net Movement	(1,025)	(4,090)	(139)	110	(139)	0	(1,533)	31	0	(1,223)	94	(7,914)
Opening Balance	1,443	10,855	620	488	775	0	2,572	146	258	1,336	851	19,344
Closing Balance	418	6,765	481	598	636	0	1,039	177	258	113	945	11,430
Amounts falling due within 1 year		13,356										
Available Balance	418	(6,591)	481	598	636	0	1,039	177	258	113	945	(1,926)

6 Tangible Fixed Assets

Estimated Value of Orchard (Depreciation 10% per annum)	5400
Gazebos and tents - (Depreciation 25% per annum)	

7 National Lottery Grant Card

Total Grant	975
Spend to Date	975
Balance	0

8 Creditors amounts falling due within 1 year

Village Bus, based on 52 weeks x 5 days less 8 bank holidays, at £53 per day Rolling contract	13356
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9 Insurance

Insurance cost is split between groups	%	Cost
Working with young people	9.73	106.82
Paradiso Club	11.2	122.96
Friends of Longovicium	13.92	152.83
Small Projects	14.82	162.71
Village Vita	24.19	265.58
Environment	4.12	45.23
Orchard	22.02	241.76
	100	1097.89