



Blackbird Leys Adventure Playground
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Annual Report of Blackbird Leys Adventure Playground

April 2021- March 2022

With thoughts as we go forward

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Chair's Report

Hello everyone. Herewith my final report, as I will be standing down as Chair immediately after starting the meeting. So, the first item of business will be to elect an interim/new Chair. I shall, however, remain on the committee and as a trustee.

The AGM, as always, offers me the opportunity to thank everyone for all your hard work on behalf of the young residents of Blackbird Leys.

Just like everyone on The Leys, BLAP faces huge financial challenges in the coming months. At this point I must make special mention of the effort and time that Sue and Gail have put in to think through new ways of keeping us afloat.

BLAP needs to explore alternative methods of fund raising, rather than just depending on grants etc. To this end we need to enlist the help of a (preferably) experienced fund raiser. Ideally, we should be looking for a chair who has a talent for extracting money from organisations who can help us to grow!

Before I sign off, I must also offer my thanks to Sarah, Sabrina, Kayley, Tanisha and Mariah, sessional workers, volunteers and the rest of the committee, for all the hard work you have put in on behalf of everyone who attends BLAP. My very best wishes to you all.



BLACKBIRD LEYS ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

FINANCIAL SUMMARY – FOR MEETING ON 20TH JULY 2022

Normal activity

After a year in which BLAP's reserves grew from £12k to £47.5k, 2021/22 has been a much less eventful time. Income rose by £24k to £115k, nearly all in the form of restricted fund grants. Expenditure rose by £27k, resulting in an operating deficit of £5k (2020/21 £2k), but overall, the two years were fairly similar in their patterns of income and expenditure.

In terms of major expenditure, a new climber frame + surface (£11,939) and new doors (£4,084) were acquired, the total spend being similar to the new eco surface in 2020/21 (£17,280).

Special funding

The big difference between the two years is, of course, the much reduced level of special funding. There was no government grant received in 2021/22 (2020/21 £25k), and there was a much reduced level of JRS Support Grant for wages.

Overall effect

Overall, the charity's reserves reduced by £3.5k to £44k, but within that the unrestricted reserves (the key monitoring figure) actually rose by £2.5k to £43k. Of this total, £20k has again been designated as an emergency reserve.

Because nearly all the 2021/22 expenditure was charged against the restricted fund grants, this provides a considerable cushion for the future, and justifies the trustees' statement that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operation for at least 12 months from the date of this AGM.

BLACKBIRD LEYS ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

	2021-22	2020-21
	£	£
INCOME		
Fees and hirings	13,333	6,086
Grants and donations	101,279	84,903
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TOTAL ORDINARY INCOME	114,612	90,989
	<hr/>	<hr/>

EXPENDITURE

Staff costs	76,711	56,387
Activity & property costs	26,106	17,422
ECO surface	0	17,280
Climber and new doors	16,023	0
Support costs	1,150	2,066

TOTAL EXPENDITURE	119,990	93,155
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NET RESULT before special funding	-5,378	-2,166
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SPECIAL FUNDING

HM Government via Oxford City Council	0	25,000
JRS Support Grant for wages	1,864	12,846
	1,864	37,846

FINAL (DEFICIT)/SURPLUS

-£3,514

£35,680

Fund balances, b/f 1.4.21	47,543	11,863
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Fund balances c/f 31.3.22

£44,029

£47,543

Restricted	975	7,046
Designated emergency	20,000	20,000
Other unrestricted	23,054	20,497
	£44,029	£47,543

Comprising:

Debtor: grants paid late	7,367	0
Cash balances	38,812	49,757
Less: Liabilities	-2,150	-2,214
	£44,029	£47,543

(Grants c/f £1,900, accruals £250)

BLACKBIRD LEYS ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND
Charity No 273172

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
FIXED ASSETS		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors and prepayments	5	7,367	0
Cash at bank		38,712	49,657
Petty cash		<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
		46,179	49,757
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors and deferred income	6	<u>2,150</u>	<u>2,214</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>44,029</u>	<u>47,543</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>£44,029</u>	<u>£47,543</u>
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY			
Restricted funds		975	7,046
Designated emergency reserve	7	20,000	20,000
Other unrestricted funds		<u>23,054</u>	<u>20,497</u>
		<u>£44,029</u>	<u>£47,543</u>

The notes on page 6 form part of these accounts.

Trustees' responsibilities

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the results for that period. In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies and to apply them consistently; make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity, and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

These accounts were approved by the trustees on 20 July 2022

Chair of Charity

Councillor Rae Humberstone

Treasurer of Charity

Gail McLintock

BLACKBIRD LEYS ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

1. Basis of accounting

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and with the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

2. Accounting policies

(a) **Income is** included in the SofA when:

the entity becomes entitled to the resources, it is probable that the income will be received, and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

(b) **Liabilities** are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the entity to pay out resources.

	2022	2021
	£	£
3. Grants		
Restricted		
Oxford City Council	15,981	10,830
Oxfordshire County Council	25,135	0

Blackbird Leys Parish Council	2,000	5,000
Children in Need	24,553	23,286
Tambour Trust	0	12,500
Oxfordshire Funding Network	7,530	3,620
Peoples Health Trust	17,330	0
Postcode Neighbourhood Fund	0	9,100
Local councillors	2,750	3,000
Other restricted up to £5,000	5,000	12,567
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	100,279	79,903
Unrestricted		
Oxford City Council	0	25,000
Other unrestricted	500	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£100,779	£104,903

4. Expenditure

Expenditure includes the Independent Examiner's fee £250 (2021 £250); no trustees were paid or committee expenses reimbursed (2021 NIL), and there were no related party transactions in either year. No employees' emoluments exceeded £60,000 in either year; the average number of employees was 3.5 (2021: 3.5).

	2022	2021
	£	£
5. Debtors		
Debtors: grants paid late	7,367	0
Other	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£7,367	£0

6. Creditors

Deferred income: grants	1,900	1,900
HM Revenue & Customs	0	0
Other creditors	250	314
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£2,150	£2,214

7. Designated emergency reserve

This represents the minimum amount required in the event of the charity being wound up.

8. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue operating for the foreseeable future. The Trustees continue to monitor the impact that Covid-19 is having on operations, and are taking actions to minimise their effect on the long-term reserves of the charity. Under all scenarios reviewed the charity has sufficient reserves to continue operating as a going concern, so has adopted this basis in preparing the accounts.

Play Leaders Report Annual General Meeting July 2022

After School Club

WOW what a year it has been.

This year we have had a big increase in the number of children attending. I put this down to our consistent approach and the new look of the building. Our new doors have made a massive difference and has helped with people wanting to hire the building for children's parties,

I always say this but, BLAP has a very family feeling which the children like. The behaviour has never been so good. My mother helped out recently and she couldn't believe how calm it was and how polite they were.

The children know there is a consequence if they do not make good choices, they mostly make the right choices, we give out more Golds than we do Red or Yellow. In fact, I cannot remember the last Red I had to give out. We have an amazing bunch of children at BLAP I feel very privileged to work with them.



Royal Visit



We were so excited about having Sophie the Countess of Wessex visit us. I must admit I did get a bit nervous. The children were amazing. They spoke with great manners and represented BLAP in a really good way. She loved how much they knew about gardening and had a good chat with our little gardeners. She had a walk around and met lots of the children, they liked asking her questions.

Volunteers

This year we gained 5 new volunteers, really needed, and really appreciated. **Alida, Valdas, Claire, Jack, and Jamie.** They all bring different qualities with them, and the children have taken to them very well. Massive thank you to you all.



As we know **Sue** is still working incredibly hard even though she has stepped down from being secretary. I really hope that we can get to the point very soon when Sue can feel sure enough to retire fully. Sue also does gardening with the children which they love. If you get time, have a little look at what they have planted, the garden looks fantastic. Thank you Sue for everything.

Wayne Ind, partner of our Secretary and father of Ronan has been busy making BLAP look beautiful. Here he is re-painting a wall used as a goal post Thankyou



Family Saturdays



We are so proud of what we have achieved in the first year of family Saturdays. At the beginning we had no idea how it would go. We have some amazing families that attend on a regular basis. They all help out with setting up and tidying away. Bingo is very popular, and we play it on a regular basis. The children like it when we play a big game of either Football or dodge ball, Adults verses the children.

Play Schemes

Last year was the first time we received Marcus Rashford funding from HAF this has enabled us to provide Play Schemes for free for the children who are in receipt of Free School Meals. It has been great to be able to provide this. The children also get a cooked lunch (made by me 😊) each day or a packed lunch if we are going off site.

We do offer some spaces to children that are not entitled to FSM. We have had some really good Play Schemes; it is hard work but good fun.



Thank You

Cllr Rae Humberstone has been our chairperson since 2016 and whilst he is still remaining as a trustee and committee member is retiring from this important role

We thank Rae for his interest in all that happens at BLAP. He has always been keen not only to chair meetings but also to pop in and see us at work. We hope he will continue to do this.



Sarah is now our Nominated Person with OFSTED and we could not think of a better person to take on this responsibility. Her background in working with parents and her understanding of the importance of the Safeguarding Process makes her ideal.

We thank her for all the cooking she does at the After School Club, the play schemes and the Family Saturdays. We are also grateful for the extra work she and Tanisha have been doing on the background administration which is so important to BLAP's survival.

We understand that **Kayley**, who has been our Assistant Play worker for the After School Club since April 2019 and has been with us since October 2017, will be finding a new job in September. We thank Kayley for all her commitment to BLAP and the many children she has helped over the years.



Our Funders: Doris Field Charitable Trust, Feoffees and Tesco also helped us replace our front entrance, making it look so much better but also allowing better ventilation necessary for COVID

Children in Need have been such a great help for many years and we thank them. This may be our last year

The government scheme run by County has helped to run the long holiday playschemes (and one half-term) for children on Free School Meals. This has been a real bonus and these children now come for free and have a wonderful few weeks.

Family Saturdays **The South East People's Health Trust** have provided us with money for two years to begin a monthly Family Saturday programme that is proving popular. We are also grateful for help with this venture from the **Blackbird Leys Parish Council** and **Catalyst** helped fund the bouncy castle that has proved so popular.

Oxford City Council continue to support our work and the **Oxford Community Foundation** also supported our post COVID work

Local councilors have helped us again this year and as always this means a lot to us.

BLAP Committee 2021-2022

Cllr Rae Humberstone Chair Trustee

Rowena Smith Vice Chair (past member of staff)

Gail McLintock Treasurer and signatory

Sabrina Sturdy secretary to Management Committee (parent)

Co-opted and took over from Susan Price October 2021

Susan Price Trustee and signatory

Dr Cllr Hosnieh Djafari Marbini Trustee

Hollie Morgan (nee Tuckwell) Trustee

Maesun John Committee member and past member of staff

Justine Oakley Committee member and teacher at local primary school

Paula Williams co-opted member of Management Committee May 2022

Ex officio **Sarah Wain** Play and Project Leader and signatory

We have been very grateful for all the help this year but are aware that it is more difficult to find funding at the very time when we are needed more than ever. With the rise in utility prices this year we know we need to find more sources of income. We are urgently and actively searching for more people who might be willing to help us raise more income for BLAP

The playground and especially the building are looking smart and has led to more bookings for children's parties. We know we have a building that could potentially be used regularly by others and bring in more income but are also aware that we need to find volunteers who might like to help with the opening and closing involved with this We also recognize that there will be extra for staff to do to ensure the premises are cleaned in between users.

We trust 2022-2023 will be an exciting time for BLAP.

