



**ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD
FROM
1st SEPTEMBER 2021
TO
31st AUGUST 2022**

TRUSTEES

Ann Walker – Chair
Clyde Young – Treasurer
Elizabeth Hutcheson – Secretary
Jane Uren – Membership Secretary
Anita Gunn
Pamela Edmonds
Maria Hadlow
Peter Williams

Registered Charity Number

1184546

**THE VILLAGE PLAYERS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE PERIOD 1st SEPTEMBER 2021 TO 31st AUGUST 2022**

THE OBJECTS OF THE TRUST

The objects of the CIO are:

- (1) to advance the education of the public in the arts through the provision of live theatre.
- (2) to advance the education of the public in the arts by providing opportunities to work with professionally trained and experienced mentors.

The Trust was registered as a charity number 1184546 with the Charity Commission in England and Wales on 23rd July 2019 in order to create a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial report for the period 1st September 2021 to 31st August 2022 is stated in the income and expenditure account attached. A commentary is also made by the Treasurer on the following page.

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES – REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Following a very quiet period in the history of The Village Players, owing to the advent of Covid 19, this last year has been a much more productive time and we have been able to stage two productions and also to put on a Burns' Night celebration, which proved very popular.

In November 2021 we put on a play by Richard Harris entitled 'Local Affairs'. This was brilliantly directed by Helen Halliday and told the stories of three couples who had recently moved into identical houses on a new estate. The set was very challenging but was expertly designed and built by John Gunn and his excellent team of helpers. To our great sadness John sadly passed away quite suddenly before the play was staged. This was a great shock to us all and we still miss him and the wonderful contribution he made to The Village Players. His wife Anita continues to be involved and has been amazing throughout this difficult time.

It had been decided by the committee to have a charity night performance during the production of 'Local Affairs' and an amount of £574 was raised for Prostate Cancer UK. One of our members very generously donated a further £426 to make up the amount we actually sent to the charity to £1000. This was in memory of Chris Walker, a former member of the group, and Clive Uren who had been a longstanding member of the committee and had also acted as

stage manager in many of our productions. Clive had sadly passed away in September 2021. His wife Jane is still a very active member of our group.

In May this year we staged the musical 'The Sound of Music' by Rodgers and Hammerstein, which was directed by Pete Bowers with the help of his wife Sue and team of supporters. This production, which was originally planned to be performed in May 2021 but, due to Covid, was postponed to this year, involved a cast of 27 people, including the seven Von Trapp children (plus one understudy for the youngest child) and proved an extremely successful production. It was good to bring in some new members to perform in this musical and we hope that they will continue to be active members of the group. The director of this production has impaired eyesight and the Committee wholeheartedly agreed with his request that the opening night be a dedicated Charity Night in aid of the East Sussex Vision Support Services. I am pleased to report that the evening raised £425 for this local charity.

Both of the above productions performed to full houses and both made a significant profit which has restored our bank balance to pre-Covid levels, which has been very reassuring. I am sure Clyde will outline the details in his Treasurer's Report.

With little income coming in, the Committee felt that it needed to explore ways of raising some funds and, towards the end of 2021, Pam Edmonds had the excellent idea of having a Burns' Night supper with Scottish country dancing, haggis and all the trimmings which was to be held in January of this year. However, owing to a flare of Covid 19, this was postponed until April but it was very well supported by our members and resulted in raising £635! All in all, a huge success!

It was not possible to arrange any workshops during the period which was due to the continued unease within the community to be actively involved in group sessions which involved close contact with others. However, we feel that our Charitable Objects have been achieved in that we:

- (i) have successfully provided the community with live theatre via two very different styles of productions,
- (ii) provided the opportunity to the cast & crew of "Local Affairs" to work with a professional director, and,
- (iii) gave an opportunity to a visually impaired member to direct, with the help of his wife, the musical "The Sound of Music" which was exceptionally challenging but which he turned into a success.
- (iv) gave many children and young adults the opportunity to act, sing and dance in the musical within a safe and vibrant environment and to work with a professional Musical Director.

2022 is the 30th anniversary of The Village Players and, following the success of the Burns' Night supper this year, the committee has decided to put on another one as a celebration of this event and this will be held on 28th January next year.

All in all, this last year has been very successful for the Village Players and I would like to thank the committee for their hard work and support. We continue to welcome new members and look forward to a successful season in 2022-23.

Ann Walker
Chair of Trustees
The Village Players

TREASURER'S REPORT

The attached Income & Expenditure Statement covers the 12-month period from 1st September 2021 to 31st August 2022 which is our normal financial year. From this it will be seen that our total income was £24,114.46 whilst our total expenditure was £20,706.02 thereby providing a healthy profit of £3,408.44. This is a much-improved situation compared with the previous year where we suffered loss, due to the restrictions imposed during the Covid pandemic, of -£1,082.47.

The main Income & Expenditure items are detailed below:

Income: As mentioned earlier, total income for the financial year amounted to £24,114.46 which arose as follows:

- (i) Subscriptions totalled £574 which was an improvement on last year's figure of £338 and was as a direct result of having a large cast in the musical The Sound of Music.
- (ii) An anonymous donation received in November of £500 to help us fund our next production and restore our reserves.
- (iii) £10,657.07 receipts (i.e. ticket & bar sales etc) from the play, Local Affairs.
- (iv) £10,358.80 receipts (i.e. ticket & bar sales etc) from the musical The Sound of Music
- (v) £2,022.63 receipts (i.e. ticket & bar sales etc) from the fund-raising Burn's Night event.
- (vi) Interest of £1.96.

Expenditure: Total expenditure in the financial year amounted to £20,706.20 the bulk of which was spent on the following items:

- (i) £616.15: General administration costs including renewal Insurance Premium (£298.06); Hall hire for meetings (£84); Flowers to two members for support (£80.48); Publicity (£44); Scripts to read (£28); Provisions (£17).
- (ii) £125.29: Specific expenditure items - £94.80 for a new card reader plus £30.49 on new bulbs for our lighting equipment.
- (iii) £9,130.79: Total costs incurred in producing the Café Theatre play "Local Affairs" including Catering costs (£2,932); Bar costs (£1,732); Hall hire (£774); Set Construction (£621); Director's Fee (£600); Costumes (£600); Charity Donation (£574); Front of House (£537); Props (£291); Publicity (£194); Royalties (£166).

- (iv) £9,186.58: Total costs incurred in producing the musical "The Sound of Music" including Musical Director & musician (£3,015); Bar costs (£1,645); Royalties (£1,332); Hall hire (£918); Set Construction (£464); Costumes (£484); Charity Donation (£425); Front of House £332); Publicity (£206); Sound (£100).
- (v) £259.90: Initial costs in setting up our next production in November 2022 ("Dracula-The Bloody Truth").
- (vi) £1,387.31: Running costs incurred in the fund-raising event "Burn's Night" including Catering (£529); Bar (£379); Front of House (£290 which includes the hire of the piper).

At this point I would like to mention that, to encourage people to return to see live theatre, the Committee decided to reduce the number of seats available for each performance (thereby allowing more space between each person) but to increase the number of performances. Whilst additional expenses were incurred in hiring the hall and paying extra royalties, the strategy worked with sell-out shows and profitable productions.

Activity

As mentioned in the Report from the Chair, it was not possible to arrange any workshops during the period. However, we were successful in achieving our Charitable Objects by:

- Providing the community with live theatre via two very different styles of productions.
- Giving the cast & crew of "Local Affairs" the experience of working with a professional director.
- Giving an opportunity to a visually impaired member of the group to direct, with the help of his wife, the musical "The Sound of Music".
- Providing the opportunity to many children and young adults within the vicinity to act, sing and dance in the musical "The Sound of Music" within a safe and vibrant environment and to work with a professional Musical Director.
- Prior to the Covid pandemic, an annual Golf Day was arranged for the many members who play golf, but this was postponed during Covid and hasn't been resurrected as it isn't felt to be within our core aims.
- Usually in December each year, the society held a "Committee & Guests Annual Dinner" to thank certain individuals for the generous amount of time & energy that they had freely given to the society during that year. However, due to Covid, the event did not take place in December 2020 and it was decided not to hold it again in December 2021. However, the Committee now feels that it would be acceptable to hold the event in December 2022.
- Donations were made to the following charities: Prostate Cancer UK (£574) and East Sussex Vision Support (£425).

The groups bankers are NatWest Bank plc. The accounts were examined by Mr James Cook, Chartered Accountant. The closing balance in the accounts of £8,449.06 reconciles with monies held in the three accounts as shown below:

£1,796.20: Current Account
£5,997.49: Reserve 1 Account
£7,793.69: Sub-total
£ 655.37: Reserve 2 Account
£8,449.06: Grand Total

Notes

- (i) The sub-total figure shown above is, in effect, the group's operational monies.
- (ii) The Reserve 2 Account shown above was originally opened in 2009 following a donation of £1,000 made by Lady Pile (in memory of her late daughter, Angie Trew - the founder of The Village Players) with the request that two book tokens be awarded each year (currently to the value of £25 each) to deserving members under the title of The Angie Trew Awards. The above figure is the current balance (including interest), and this money is kept separate from the group's operational monies.

No awards were made in this reporting period and, as a result, the closing balance mirrors that of last year with a little interest added.

In closing, The Village Players has ended the reporting period with funds of around £3,400 higher than in the corresponding period last year thanks to its ability to stage two very successful productions with healthy audience numbers and a successful fund-raising event.

Overall, therefore, the group has learned from the challenging year of 2020-21 and has adapted its operations in 2021-22 to return a profitable year which leaves the group in a healthy financial position.

Clyde M Young
Treasurer & Trustee
The Village Players

THE VILLAGE PLAYERS
YEAR 1st SEPTEMBER 2021 to 31st AUGUST 2022

Income & Expenditure Statement

INCOME	2021/22	2020/21
General		
Subscriptions	£574.00	£338.00
Donations & Grants	£500.00	£29.54
Interest	£1.96	£0.52
Golf day	£0.00	£0.00
Royalties-Refund	£0.00	£360.00 Way Upstream
Miscellaneous	£0.00	£0.00
Workshop	£0.00	£0.00
	£1,075.96	£728.06
Productions		
Local Affairs	£10,657.07	£0.00 No plays performed
Sound of Music	£10,358.80	
	£21,015.87	£0.00
Fund Raising		
Burn's Night	£2,022.63	£0.00
TOTAL INCOME	£24,114.46	£728.06
EXPENDITURE	2021/22	2020/21
General		
Administration	-£19.47	-£8.10
Scripts to Read & Guide to Plays	-£27.97	-£54.75
Hall hire	-£84.00	
Insurance & Subscription	-£298.06	-£298.06
Miscellaneous	-£45.00	£0.00
Music	£0.00	£0.00
Other	£0.00	-£71.32
Provisions	-£17.17	-£61.56
Publicity	-£44.00	-£36.67
Gifts	-£80.48	-£112.10
	-£616.15	-£642.56
Specific		
Website	£0.00	£0.00
Committee & guests meal (subsidised)	£0.00	£0.00
Workshop	£0.00	£0.00
Golf Day	£0.00	£0.00
Charity Donation-	£0.00	£0.00
Special Expenditure (Card Reader)	-£94.80	-£312.00 Skip Hire
Other: Lighting	-£30.49	£0.00
	-£125.29	-£312.00
Productions		
Sound of Music (Q)	-£9,186.58	-£314.51 Sound of Music
Local Affairs (S)	-£9,130.79	-£541.46 Local Affairs
Dracula-The Bloody Truth	-£259.90	
	-£18,577.27	-£855.97
Fund Raising		
Burn's Night	-£1,387.31	£0.00
Productions and fund raising	-£19,964.58	-£855.97
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	-£20,706.02	-£1,810.53
PROFIT (LOSS) FOR YEAR	£3,408.44	-£1,082.47

Income & Expenditure

Summary of Financial Year	2021/22	2020/21
Balance Brought Forward	£5,040.62	£6,123.09
Income	£24,114.46	£728.06
Expenditure	-£20,706.02	-£1,810.53
Balance Carried Forward	£8,449.06	£5,040.62

Closing Balances

Reserve Account	£5,997.49	£3,995.87
Reserve No2 (AngieTrewAward)	£655.37	£655.03
Current Account	£1,796.20	£389.72
Minus Unpresented Cheques	£0.00	£0.00
Total	£8,449.06	£5,040.62
	<u>£0.00</u>	<u>£0.00</u>

Assets & Liabilities	2021/22	2020/21
Assets (5% Depreciation)		
Costume rail	£0.00	£6.61
Tablecloths	£25.00	£75.06
Lights	£1,500.00	£2,520.63
Keyboard	£10.00	£31.62
Blackout Curtains	£0.00	£19.11
Set Flats	£0.00	£31.62
Sack Barrow	£5.00	£8.82
Costumes	£0.00	£0.00
Microphones	£800.00	£1,629.01
Shed	£750.00	£1,520.00
Total - non cash items	£3,090.00	£5,842.48
Cash on Deposit	£8,449.06	£5,040.62
Total Assets	£11,539.06	£10,883.10
Liabilities	£0.00	£0.00
Grand Total	£11,539.06	£10,883.10

The value of the above assets have been re-appraised in light of their age and condition. In particular, there is greater demand for LED lighting rather than the conventional lamps we have. The Trustees of The Village Players therefore believe that the values set against the non-cash assets listed above represent a true reflection of their forced sale value at the end of this financial year.

Signed

Clyde Young : Treasurer

Date

24/09/22

Auditor's Statement

I have examined the above accounts for The Village Players and confirm that, from the records maintained, they represent a true reflection of the financial position of The Village Players during the period 01/09/2021 to 31/08/2022

Signed

Date

7.10.22

Name : J W Cook Esq, Chartered Accountant