








Stirling4Community

Trustees' Annual Report

From 23mar21 to 31jan22

<p>Knit, Stitch and Sip Group</p> 	<p>Monthly Tea Dance</p> 	<p>Men's Group</p> 
<p>Bairns Rock – Pre School Group</p> 	<p>Wellbeing Choir</p> 	<p>Lunch Club & Allan Park House Lunch</p> 
	<p>Art Group</p> 	

Charity contact information

Charity name: Stirling4Community SCIO
Scottish Charity Number: SC051038
Address: 16 Laurelhill Gardens, Stirling
Postcode: FK8 2PT

Telephone number: 07826 556302
Email address: stirling4community@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.stirling4community.org.uk>
Facebook: Stirling4Community

Charity Trustees

Jane Steel	- Chairperson
Sally Forshaw	– Acting Secretary & Fundraising Co-ordinator
David Boyd	– Vice Chairperson
Lorna Shaw	- Treasurer
Gerry Forshaw	– Assistant Treasurer
Raymond Phillips	– Membership Secretary
Natalie Forshaw	- Trustee
Tina Cochrane	– Corporate Trustee
Colleen Sharp	- Trustee (resigned as Ass't Secretary 25nov21)

Former Trustees

Jim Steel	(resigned 30mar22)
Paula Freck	(resigned 4apr22)
Laura St John	(resigned 18apr22)

Objectives and activities

The purposes of Stirling4 Community are to provide a range of services either on its own initiative or in association with others, geared to responding to community needs. At the outset, this will focus on four areas:

- Addressing the challenges of loneliness and isolation
- Nurturing community and building a sense of belonging
- Developing friendship and fellowship
- Promoting wellbeing

We will work with others to promote our objectives.

Stirling4Community is founded on the Christian values of love, service and inclusivity.

We are a welcoming organisation open to anyone, of whatever faith or none. We will strive to be inclusive and open to all members of society

We currently hold several community groups each week including a Dementia and Older People's Lunch Club, a Wellbeing & Friendship Choir, a Children's Pre School & Mum's Group, a Men's Group, a Knitting & Sewing Group, and an Art/Painting Group as well as a Monthly Tea Dance for all ages and abilities

All of our groups aim to combat loneliness and isolation by encouraging community, welcoming people and developing friendships.

Structure, governance, and management

Type of governing document

Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO)

Trustee recruitment and appointment

Since we began formally in Mar 2021 with a board of 13 Trustees, we have had several resign from post and currently have 8

We very much welcome corporate trustees to join, and currently have one corporate trustee, from a partner organisation 'William Simpsons Care Home' – We are currently work on a joint project on their site at Plean, Stirling, where our Men's Group are helping to develop and maintain vegetable borders

We have a board of Trustee with diverse working experience including Retired Directors, Retired Teachers, Retired Bank Staff, Transport Manager, Finance Manager, Retired Business & Social Care Manager, Retired Electrician, HGV Driver, each bringing mixed life experiences and skills.

Achievements and performance

It's been a momentous year, from starting from humble beginnings organizing our thoughts in January 2021, to opening our first bank account and receiving funding in March 2021, and with little more than an initial desire to create community groups to reduce isolation and loneliness, we have already made great progress, despite the Covid pandemic, in setting up many of our community groups, including Lunch club, Choir, Bairn's Rock kids group, Knitting group, Art group, Tea Dance and our Men's Group

We got off to an excellent start in our partnership with William Simpsons Care Home, and we owe our enormous thanks to their Chief Executive and to their Board of Trustees who have fully supported us, by giving us the use of a fabulous piece of land, a former graveyard of William Simpson's, and which was being used for dog exercise, to create into a Memorial Garden and Community Garden space.

We have been very blessed to have been supported financially by many different external funders, following applications made by our hard-working funding coordinator. We're also very thankful to our members for their membership fees and donations which contribute to our stable financial position.

Halls

We have been blessed to find two great spaces to run our groups from, in the absence of finding our own space – Holy Trinity Church hall next to the Albert Halls on Dumbarton Road, Stirling and Calvary Fellowship hall in the Stirling Arcade off Murray Place

We have applied to Stirling Council for the East Argyle Centre to take it on as a community asset transfer, and currently await hearing further details from them to progress our application in competition against several other local charities and community groups.

Thanks are due to all of our Board of Trustees for their support and hard work this year, with special thanks to our Secretary/Acting Secretary, who has done a great job of taking the minutes each meeting, to our Membership Secretary, who deals with membership queries, to our Treasurer and Depute Treasurer, who have kept the financial accounts

in good order throughout the year, and to our Fundraising Co-ordinator who has done an excellent job and raised over £30,000 in grant funding to allow our groups to get started and to continue into the future.

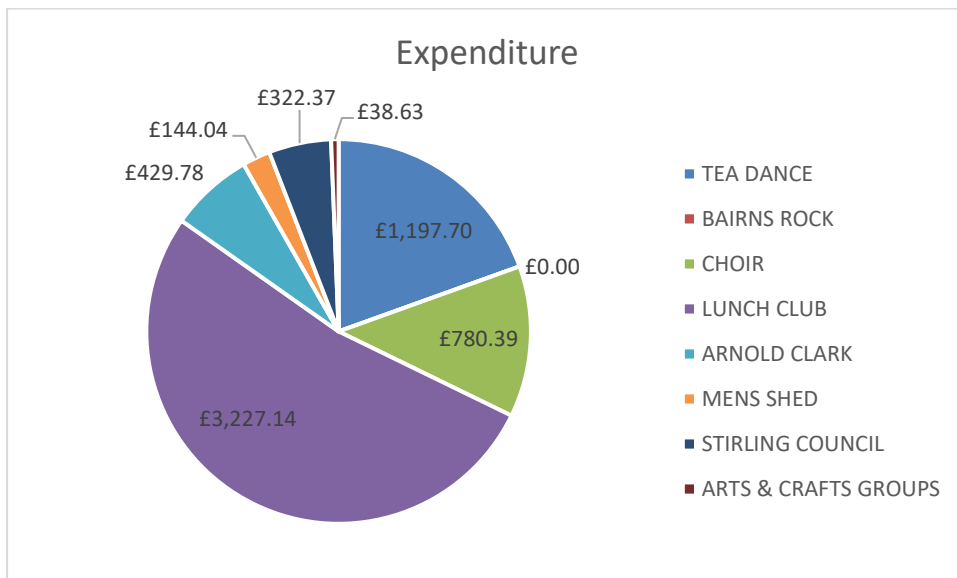
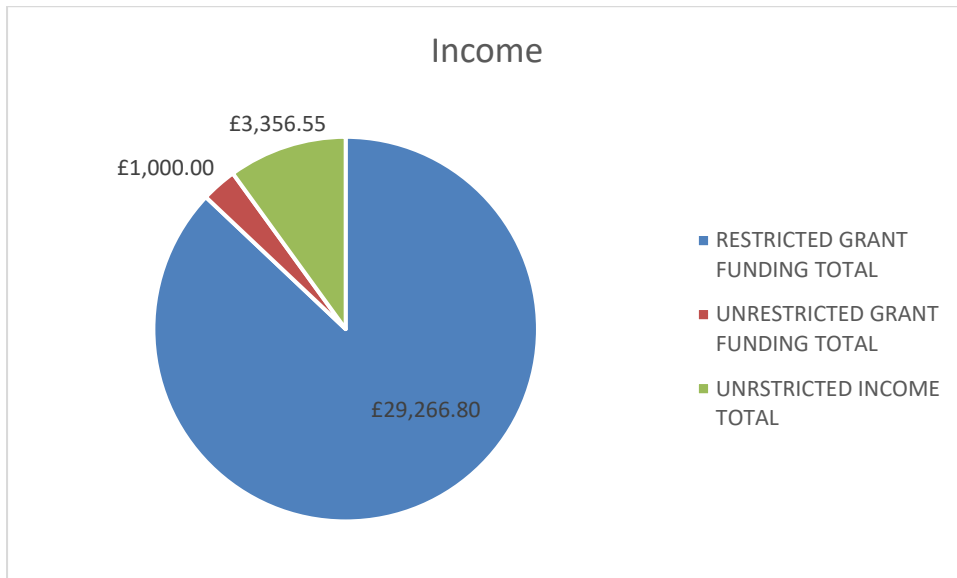
We are very excited to continue our work in the Stirling community and continue our partnership with William Simpsons Care Home, and we hope to generate more mutual opportunities for interaction with the residents there.

We continue to have our primary focus on reducing loneliness and isolation, particularly through the growth of further community groups, and we hope through rental of our own premises at some point in the coming year as suitable premises become available to us.

Volunteers

We have a large group of over 30 volunteers who work with our groups on a weekly basis, giving their time selflessly to support us and help our community group attendees.

Financial review



Statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The trustees aim to maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately three months of unrestricted expenditure.

The trustees consider that this level will provide sufficient funds to ensure that support and governance costs are covered.

The trustees consider that a level of three months is currently sufficient given our start-up situation and the nature of our work, and, not having the burden of owning any property to be maintained, the short notice (Normally 1 month) required on giving up any rented premises that we use.

We now have a very healthy balance sheet and the success of our groups bringing in their own income through weekly donations has greatly improved our position since our start-up. Our Reserves policy will be reviewed in 2022.

Details of any deficit

No deficits have occurred during the year.

Donated facilities and services

No donated facilities, only hire of facilities that we operate from

Future plans

We aim to continue with all of our current groups and grow our services by considering other needs in the community such as a Walking group, a Well-being group. These are not yet finalised but will be developed during 2022

We hope to have our own rental premises available full time in 2022/2023 as this would help significantly organisationally and allow the community attend at the same premises when coming to multiple different groups.

Declaration

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:



Print name JANE STEEL

Designation CHAIRPERSON

Date 8TH SEPTEMBER 2022