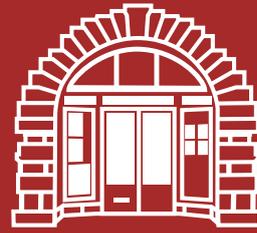


Shaftesbury
Arts Centre



Annual Report
2015-2016

Box Office: 01747 854321
www.shaftesburyartscentre.org.uk

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 05336078 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1109836

**Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2016
for
Shaftesbury Arts Centre
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

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Shaftesbury Arts Centre

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2016

The company is registered as a charity and limited by guarantee and its directors are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the trustees.

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 August 2016. In May 2015 the company amended its accounting date to 31 August and the comparative data in this report and accompanying financial statements are for the eleven-month period to 31 August 2015.

The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015). This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The objectives of the company according to its Articles of Association are to promote, maintain, improve and advance the education of the public in the arts and science of music, opera, ballet, drama, film, photography, literature, paintings, drawing and sculpture, in the presentation of concerts, performances, exhibitions and other activities.

Principal Activity

The principal activity of the company in the period under review was that of the promotion and performance of artistic and cultural activities.

During the year a number of fundraising events were organised to generate income and raise the profile of the Arts Centre.

Risk management

The major risks to which the company is exposed, as identified by the directors/trustees, have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate those risks.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Arts Centre's aims and objectives and in the planning of future activities.

Shaftesbury Arts Centre

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2016

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

The main activities of the Arts Centre have continued to be (in-house) Music and Drama performances, Externally Booked (theatre and live music) performances, Film shows, art exhibitions in the Gallery, and Other Events (mainly fundraising). The Arts Centre is also used for and by many community groups including poetry, traditional dance and ukulele groups, an a cappella choir, music for babies and toddlers, and drama groups both separately for children, young people and adults, and also a mixed group for all ages. The Centre also runs creative writing, photography and six drawing and painting groups and annually hosts the first and second rounds of the Dorset Drama League competition and provides the venue for biennial Dorset Arts Week exhibitions. The gallery is open for artists to hire and display their works, and twice a year the Arts Centre has its own exhibitions when artists from the town and surrounding area are encouraged to become part of a group exhibition.

Group reports:

Chairman's Annual Report 2015-16

The Arts Centre has had another successful year.

Music & Drama excelled themselves as usual with "Sweeney Todd"; the pantomime, "Jack & the Beanstalk"; and the musical, "Annie Get Your Gun". ABOP, our new resident professional Youth Theatre thrilled us with "Spring Awakening". And, in the first ever Shaftesbury Fringe, we were the most popular venue.

On stage we welcomed a number of new professional acts including Bookends, a marvellous tribute duo for Simon and Garfunkel, and the JSLN Ballet Company, and many more. Also new this year was the Flying Start Nursery School's Nativity Play which brought in a full house of proud parents and grandparents, many of them new to the Arts Centre. The success of the Gallery, both artistically and financially, continues to exceed all expectations and the income from room hire continues to grow well.

During the week, the Centre throbs with activity; toddler, young children and youth groups; Poetry, Reading, and Creative Writing; Pilates, Keep Fit and Dancing; and (currently) five Art Groups. We also host the Flower Arranger's demonstrations and Abbey lectures as well as providing a lovely venue for private parties, some of which are catered for by our own team.

The Arts Centre is bursting at the seams and we need to expand and improve our facilities to meet the increasing demands of both audiences and participants. Our venture to realise Phase 4 of our development plan, to build our long-awaited extension and fly-tower and replace the existing roof, is now well under way. We have been working with our architects, PWCR, to be sure that all our needs are met and during the year we put in a well-received "pre-application" for planning permission: the full application has recently been submitted and we await the Planners' decision. Now that we have a full set of plans for the works, the latest estimated project cost is approaching £1 million, almost half of which we hope to obtain from Arts Council England when we are allowed to apply for a grant from them in early 2017, and we have been working hard to identify other sources of funding, and to raise the necessary match-funding.

We would like to thank the following for their continuing support and generous grants; Shaftesbury Town Council, Shaftesbury Charitable Trust and the Rotary Club. And, as always, grateful thanks go to our hardworking fundraising team for their series of imaginative events including creating and manning the Father Christmas Grotto at Orchard Park Garden Centre.

The year has seen some changes on the board of directors. John Skillman and Nic Griffin resigned, both of whom played a very active role in the financial running of the Arts Centre, and for this we thank them. In their place we were pleased to welcome Geoff Spencer to the financial team and John Pierce to take on, amongst other things, the liaison role with the Film Society.

In an organisation such as the Arts Centre it is impossible to mention everybody by name. You may not tread the boards and receive applause on the stage, however, without all the backroom boys from the ice-cream seller to the Gallery steward, the stage hand to Father Christmas, the show could not go on: we applaud you all.

Shaftesbury Arts Centre

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2016

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Treasurer's Annual Report 2015-16

Summary:

Financially speaking, 2015-16 was a successful year for the Arts Centre. Main operations generated a net increase in our General Fund of £21,000 along with a further £26,000 increase in the year to our Restricted ("Raise the Roof") Fund. Our cash at the bank increased by £32,000 after the scheduled repayment amount of over £20,000 against the bank loans taken out to purchase 11 Bell Street: the loans are still on target to be fully repaid in 2023.

Operations:

The main income generating activities of the Arts Centre have continued to be Music & Drama, the Gallery, Room Hire and Other Events (mainly fundraising), along with still significant contributions from the Bar and Catering, Films, and External Bookings. These have variable levels of direct cost associated with their delivery but all have been managed so as to generate a financial surplus over the year to set against central overheads.

Activity	Income	Cost	Net
Music and Drama (in-house productions)	£35,000	£15,000	£20,000
Gallery (net of payments to artists)	£18,000	£0	£18,000
Room Hire (including a % of ticket sales where applicable)	£15,000	£0	£15,000
Other Events (mainly fundraising)	£17,000	£4,000	£13,000
Bar and Catering	£12,000	£4,000	£8,000
Film Shows (ie. excluding Film Society membership fees)	£6,000	£4,000	£2,000
External Bookings (professional theatre and music)	£17,000	£14,000	£3,000
Total	£120,000	£41,000	£79,000

Meanwhile the annual subscriptions of over £16,000 from our c.500 Arts Centre and Film Society members, plus nearly £26,000 in other income from a wide variety of sources, including programme advertisers, grant donors, and other fundraising actions, provide the remainder of our income which totalled £162,000 for the year (£102,000 in the 11 months to 31 August 2015).

Also, in addition to the £41,000 in direct costs of the activities listed above, the Arts Centre had central overhead ("running costs") of £66,000 and other ("programme adverts and sales") costs of £8,000, taking the total expenditure for the year to £115,000 (£84,000 in the 11 months to 31 August 2015).

The total net income for the year was therefore £47,000 (£18,000 for the 11 months to 31 August 2015) split into £21,000 to the General Fund and £26,000 to the (restricted) "Raise the Roof" Fund.

The Arts Centre took the opportunity in this financial year to rationalise its reported "funds", many of which were found to be of purely historical relevance: a net funds transfer as at 31 August 2015 of £7,000 from the general to restricted funds was agreed with our accountants and independent examiner. The £18,000 net income for the 11 months to 31 August 2015 was therefore split into a loss of almost £1,000 to the General Fund and a net income to the restricted fund of £19,000.

Post-Balance Sheet Events:

Since September 2016 the Arts Centre has been continuing to prepare for the implementation of Phase IV of its Development Strategy: rationalising the back-stage areas to create a new art studio, a dedicated dance studio, workshops, dressing rooms and storage areas, installing a new fly-tower above the stage, and replacing the roof.

Following a promising "pre-application" planning review by the planners of North Dorset District Council, refinements have been made to the architects' plans for the extension and renovation of the stage and back-stage areas of the Arts Centre, an independent firm of Quantity Surveyors has been appointed, independent Ecologist' and Archaeologist's assessments carried out, and a formal Planning Application submitted.

Shaftesbury Arts Centre

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2016

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

At the same time an application for capital funding has been made to Arts Council England whilst our efforts to raise "match-funding" have continued. These have been greatly enhanced by the receipt of a substantial legacy from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous, by continued support from several donors and sponsors including Shaftesbury Town Council, the Shaftesbury Charitable Trust, Shaftesbury Carnival Committee, Rutters (solicitors), and Proctor Cole Watts & Rutter. There has also been an encouraging response from other potential funders including Dorset County Council.

The Board is still confident of obtaining Planning Permission and sufficient capital funding to enable this exciting development to commence in 2017/18.

Art Group Report 2015-2016

Our year has been as usual busy and productive. We had a good variety of tutors and various life drawing sessions. We have a good age range in our group which means the lift in the building is extremely useful. We have managed to keep the autumn and spring term fees to £40 per person, and the summer term because we have fewer tutors to £20 each. This year our subscriptions were £135 more than our outgoings.

Rachel Sargent helped us with watercolours in autumn 2015, and Claire Thomas with lino printing. In spring 2016 our first Tutor was Keith Stott helping us with mysteries of pastels. Later we had Jules Horn for life drawing; very professional and helpful. David Marl gave us two excellent sessions on landscapes. We had two very interesting and productive sessions with Debbie Chisman on pen and ink. James Dudden came to us for two very taxing drawing sessions.

Our Exhibition looked good in the extended gallery: it enhanced our work. We made some sales and would have liked more. It was well attended and we had many compliments.

The summer started with a still life of flowers. Next session we drew group members. Zara McQueen gave a interesting session drawing in the Shaftesbury Museum Gardens and another at SAC. We organised some outside sketching locations, but the weather was not kind.

During this year we had several new members and some who moved on to classes in the SAC. New people ring on a regular basis for information about joining so the group is well supported.

Buildings Group Annual Report

Our task is basically to keep The Centre looking at its best and ensuring that it is an attractive, welcoming and friendly place to spend one's leisure time in. We are also charged with making it a safe place to be in and for keeping it secure.

Rob White joined our group earlier in the year and has taken on the important area of Health and Safety, he is also taking responsibility for managing the variety of annual contracts eg alarm systems, lift maintenance, boilers etc. All other areas are picked up by members of the group dependent on their skills, interest and time available.

Work carried out by contractors during the year has included:

- replacing, as necessary, the sealed units in the Rutter Room windows and replacing broken sash cords in same;
- treating and lining the damp wall on the back stairs;
- repairing lead flashings and velux windows in Phoenix Room;
- upgrading various parts of our electrical circuits and testing electrical equipment as required;
- installing an efficient hand dryer in the gents loo.

Projects started but not yet completed during this reporting period include installation of a pay coffee machine for the foyer and replacing the window in the ground floor dressing room overlooking the back yard.

Work carried out in-house during this period included:

- the completion of the decorating of the Phoenix Room, decorating the new plasterboard work on the back stairs and a complete refurbishment of the Middle Dressing Room;
- installation of a CCTV system covering the vulnerable back yard area;
- curing a perpetual leak by the backdoor;
- cleaning and refixing some very high level guttering;
- taking up and relaying the stage floor;
- improving the storage system for stage cloths back stage;

Shaftesbury Arts Centre

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2016

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

- refixing damaged and loose banister rails;
- cleaning the two banners above the front door;
- attempting to sell the last dozen remaining of the old red auditorium seats;
- tending to leaky taps and loose door handles etc etc!

We have also had an input into the planning stages for the Phase Four project by attending meetings in office and on site and by having Phase Four as a constant Agenda Item for our monthly meetings.

Our policy is: -"if it isn't broken don't tinker with it so that it becomes broken-if it is broken please tell us"!

External Bookings 2015 - 2016

Over this period I managed to secure eleven bookings from across the entire range of the performing arts.

For those interested in theatre, The Bristol Old Vic Theatre School presented Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', Hotbuckle Theatre presented Jane Austin's 'Emma' and Arena Theatre presented the Noel Coward classic, 'Brief Encounter' thus covering over 400 years of British drama!

The musical bookings covered very nearly as wide a spectrum; a major achievement was securing a visit from Juan Martin, the legendary exponent of Spanish Flamenco guitar, who brought a warm breath of Andalusia to Shaftesbury.

Cara Dillon returned with her extremely popular brand of Anglo-Irish songs and the talented Hannah James brought her new all-singing-playing-dancing show to us, which has since toured to great acclaim.

A memorable evening was provided by 'Animals and Friends', containing two original members of the iconic 1960's rock band, 'The Animals'.

The Producers returned to represent 'the Blues' on their 25th anniversary tour and 'Voodoo Room' returned with their clever renditions of the music of Jimi Hendrix and Cream.

Another remarkable return to the music of the 1960s was provided by 'Bookends', who recaptured, with astonishing accuracy, the music of Simon and Garfunkel. (Those of you who didn't manage to get a ticket to their magical sell-out show, have another chance, when they return this March.)

And finally, dance. For the first time in many years I was delighted to bring a high-quality Ballet company to Shaftesbury. JSLN covered the classical repertoire as well as modern dance. Their 'Allo, Allo' sequence was a particular crowd-pleaser. I certainly hope to book them again.

I will continue to try and achieve as diverse and varied a programme as possible.

Fund Raising Report

The Fund raising committee have had another very busy but fun year with a wide variety of events having taken place between Sept 1st 2015 and Aug 31st 2016

Raise the Roof catering events have included coffee lunches and teas for our annual Open Day, Pie & Mash suppers for Sweeney Todd (though I hasten to add not using the same ingredients as Mrs Lovett !!!!) , a Winter Special Souper Saturday giving people a chance to socialise as well as enjoying a selection of soups, savouries and cakes, we provided coffee and cookies for the Snowdrop Study day when approximately 150 galanthophiles from all over the country come to pursue their passion for snow drops, a quiz with two course supper testing the mind while feeding the body, the Mayor's civic lunch when our mayor promotes Shaftesbury to other mayors in the area, all day refreshments during the first round of the Dorset Drama League's festival of one act plays, a three course meal for a wedding anniversary held at the town hall, which certainly tested our ingenuity but which was a wonderful occasion for a special couple and last but certainly not least, tea, sandwiches and cakes for those attending a celebration of another very special person's life.

Shaftesbury Arts Centre

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2016

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Throughout the year various forms of entertainment have taken place including a Rock Around the Clock 1950's evening, two film specials one "The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel" very popular and great fun and the other "Frozen Sing a Long" with lots of children in their favourite Frozen character costumes joining in the songs with great energy, a performance of "The Vagina Monologues" with funds raised being shared with the "Women's Community Theatre Workshop" a very entertaining evening at "Joe Cools Rock'n'Roll Diner and a magical time in "Wonderland" written and performed by our Storyslingers

We are very grateful to have had other people holding events for us including a Yogathon, a special fund raising performance of the very funny play "Flint Street Nativity" performed by "Motcombe Community Theatre" and a Christmas Concert by Shaftesbury Town Band sharing the profits equally with us.

We also had an auction, which didn't seem to fit into any of the above categories, although our excellent auctioneer made it a very entertaining event, and the ongoing Box Office Boutique, marmalades and jams and loose change jar continue to raise a substantial amount towards the funds.

During this year three of our committee have resigned for various reasons so we would be delighted to welcome some new faces to join us however, as you can see, despite this we have had another varied, busy and successful year and during this time have raised over £26,000 and we would like to very much thank all those people who have supported us in any way.

Film Society Annual Report 2015-16

The 2015-16 season of films was the society's 32nd since its formation as an Arts Centre activity in 1984 with a total of 18 Friday Film screenings, starting with Force Majeure and ending with Brooklyn, attracting an average total audience of 90 of whom 65 were Film Society members and 25 paying guests. Selma achieved the highest audience-approval rating of 92.6 per cent.

Four film specials helped raise funds, Second Best Marigold Hotel, Frozen Singalong, The Lady in the Van and Suffragette.

The subject for the annual Filmday was the work of Robert Altman, with screenings of the documentary Altman and Short Cuts.

The 'senior moment' afternoon shows - films for the Over 50s - continued on the third Tuesday of every month, working in partnership with the North Dorset Integrated Care Team. Second Best Marigold Hotel was the most popular and best attended film.

The six films for children on Saturday afternoons attracted an average audience of 32, with Shaun the Sheep the most popular with an audience of 65.

The Film Society held its 2015-16 AGM in May 2016 when John Burrough was elected chairman and Paul Schilling secretary, supported by a committee of 14.

Report for The Gallery 2015 - 2016

We have been open now for three very successful years. There is no shortage of requests to exhibit, with artists from both within, and out of, the area wanting to show their work. Without fail, those who are not local are envious of The Gallery, with comments like "why can't we have a gallery like this in our town".

During the year we have had 31 Exhibitions of either one or two week durations; 17 of them were groups, plus 2 in-house exhibitions, Welcome 16 and Snowdrops in Art. Unlike commercial galleries we have a turnaround time of about one hour! Quite an exercise in planning sometimes.

Shaftesbury Arts Centre

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2016

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Our exhibits have ranged from oils, pastels, watercolours, textiles, glass, wood, prints, photography, sculpture and ceramics, with the addition of jewellery, books, etc for the Snowdrop Exhibition.

Our sales have been good, with several exhibitions taking over £5,000 and with commissions to SAC generally being around 25-30%. Bookings for the year 2016/17 are all paid for and shortly we will be starting to accept 2018 bookings (and their fees).

My thanks to our team, Caroline Hughes, Ian Reilly and Ann Wilson, without whom The Gallery would not function so smoothly; also to Andrea Jenkins who has taken on the role of Gallery promotion through social media.

Music and Drama Annual Report 2015-16

Another busy year of productions and contributing to fundraising for the Music and Drama Group.

Members contributed to the Open Day as usual and later in September the Raise the Roof fundraiser, Rock Around the Clock. October saw the atmospheric Sweeney Todd and in November a fun theatrical quiz for those that attended the MaD AGM. We were unable to generate enough Christmas spirit to put on Christmas at the Arts Centre so, unfortunately, had to cancel it although we did contribute various elves, animals and the big man himself to the Christmas Grotto fundraiser at Orchard Park.

The traditional pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk entertained us on two weeks of winter evenings. 100 was our entry to the Dorset Drama League Festival and went through to the next round. April was busy for us with the colourful and funny Comedy of Errors and a successful Music and Drama Presents evening with a rehearsed reading of Donkeys.

Annie Get Your Gun finished off another busy year of productions. Also, our members continued to contribute to the general running of the Arts Centre helping in all areas including maintenance and front of house roles throughout the year.

While we manage to keep shows happening there is a need for more volunteers in all areas from performers to production teams. We especially need to attract more members in the 20-40 age range; set designers, builders and painters; stagehands; stage managers; and lighting and sound operators.

Photography Group annual report 2015-16

The Photography Group began in March 2016 and some effort has been made to get the group adequately publicised through the website, newsletter, catalogue and a few posters around the area. Getting the numbers up has been slow, but there does seem to be some momentum building now.

Group sessions are run in distinct series each of around 12 weeks duration. Newcomers are often looking for beginner level advice and learning, largely technical concerns around the use of the camera etc. In order to accommodate the needs of these people as well as those of more advanced photographers I am now experimenting with a few sessions of technical workshops aimed at the beginners (open to whoever from the group wishes to join them). I am hoping that this will also deal with the disruption of absences from week to week - while this is not an issue for more advanced photographers, it does mean that beginners find it hard to advance without focused attendance, and this can hold back the group at large.

As we begin this current series it looks as if we have 8 regular members starting in the group. For this series we are aiming to exhibit some of our work at the Arts Centre open day in June, and this promises to be an interesting project for the group.

We currently do not charge a fee for membership of the group other than requiring Arts Centre membership. This may change in the future, but for now that is the policy. Costs for prints and framing when required, will be borne by the individual members as the need arises.

Poetry Group 2015-16

We have had a wonderfully busy year and, best of all, we are now recognised as a vital part of the Shaftesbury "scene" and asked to give poetry readings at various venues, especially at the Library and SAC events through the year.

Shaftesbury Arts Centre

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2016

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

In December 2015 we rehearsed for the annual SAC Christmas Concert but unfortunately the whole concert was cancelled at the last minute. We took part in Wonderland, an evening of poetry and prose at SAC in June in conjunction with Story Slingers. Many in the audience remarked how delightful it was to hear original poems and prose read by the writers themselves, and asked for more!

One member, Richard Foreman, whose talents are not only as a poet and short story writer but also as an artist (not only publishing "Wilful Misunderstandings" during the year but designing programmes and posters for SAC), took part in the Shaftesbury Fringe to much acclaim.

The whole group took part in a programme on "Messages" at The Two Brewers Inn for National Poetry Day, and in another performance, together with Story Slingers, for the SAC Open Day and had excellent and very appreciative audiences. Each month we write poems on a different theme, set by whoever presents the Poetry evening the month before, including "A First Experience", "Leave or Remain", "Riddles", "Touch", "Flight", "Mindfulness" and "Hope". Whatever the theme "set" we get a great mixture of verse from the most lyrical to significant and meaningful, to hilarious and ridiculous.

Finally, since the year-end the really big news is the huge success of our latest book, "Through the Year in Shaftesbury", launched with a party at SAC in December 2016 and selling really well. We have already taken over £500, with all profits going to the "Raise the Roof" fund.

Junior Drama Annual Report 2015-16

Sam Skey and Zoe Binns restarted Junior Drama in the Summer term in May 2016 with the support of Barbara Arnold on the MAD committee. The aim was to provide continuity for those children that had previously enjoyed the Junior Drama group and wished to continue, also, to ensure provision for disadvantaged children. Cost is just £1 per session but whole term is paid in advance. There had been a waiting list and everyone was contacted. We started the group with nine and began writing a Princess Adventure play. The play got written but due to inconsistent attendance and one leaving the group, we were not able to stage the show. However, we had a lot of fun, learnt a lot of skills, gained some confidence and the group is bonding well and looking forward to returning after the Summer Holidays.

We decided that Junior Drama would be a drama club/workshop with children learning general drama skills in lesson by lesson. Also, to supplement the activities by inviting in volunteer tutors from around the arts centre to host or help run the workshops in their particular speciality. It is expected that as the group grows we will once again stage a show.

Room Hirings Annual Report 2015-16

It's been quite a busy year! So I'm pleased to report an increase in the income for Room Hire during the past financial year.

We had twelve regular Room Hirers (now 14), ie: Toddler Workshops, Emma and The Magic Bag, Ukulele Band, Palida Choir, Card Making Class, History of Art, Pilates, Art for Everyone, monthly Valuation Days, Pastel Workshops and ABOP (Anything but Ordinary Productions) Professional Theatre Company plus many more other individual hirings.

The Theatre also had regular hirers, ie: the Snowdrop Festival, Shaftesbury Abbey for their Spring and Autumn lectures, Shaftesbury Flower Arrangers plus other individuals who held events on stage.

Unfortunately due to lack of space and requests for particular days, I'm not always able to accommodate and regretfully have to turn people away. A few of the regular hirers require access by 9am! My grateful thanks go to Paul Schilling for unlocking the building to see these groups in, also to John Baldwin for his Technical and Lighting support.

Another busy year lies ahead to which I look forward.

Shaftesbury Arts Centre

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2016

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

2015-16 was a successful year for the Arts Centre. Main operations generated a net increase in the General Fund of £20,888 (£6,246 before an inter-fund transfer of £7,080 to restricted funds in 2014-15) along with an increase of £26,390 in the year to the Restricted ("Raise the Roof") Fund (£11,986 before the inter-fund transfer of £7,080 in 2014-15).

Cash at bank increased by £32,680 to £70,798 (£38,118 at 31 August 2015) after the scheduled repayment amount of £20,618 against the bank loans taken out to purchase 11 Bell Street: the loans are still on target to be fully repaid in 2023.

Reserves policy

The company aims to maintain reserves sufficient to allow the Arts Centre to operate for the next year.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The organisation was established as a company limited by guarantee and registered as a charity. The company is controlled by its governing document, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006. The liability of the members in the event of being wound up is limited to a sum not exceeding £10.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

In accordance with the Articles of Association four trustees will retire at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting; three by rotation and one who was appointed by the board since the last Annual General Meeting. All have indicated a willingness to stand for re-election. All members are circulated with invitations to nominate trustees prior to the AGM advising them of those retiring and requesting any new nominations for the AGM.

New trustees undergo an orientation day to brief them on: their legal obligation under charity and company law, the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the committee and decision-making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the charity.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

05336078 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1109836

Registered office

13 Bell Street
Shaftesbury
Dorset
SP7 8AR

Shaftesbury Arts Centre

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2016**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Trustees

J C Parker	
J S Cadmore	
J A Cadmore	
R M Drewett	
A C Harrison	
Dr K Harrison	- appointed 29.12.2016
R Lloyd	
R Longfoot	
J Pierce	- appointed 24.2.2016
P G Ryley	- appointed 19.10.2015
S Trim	- appointed 28.9.2015
C Dunford	- resigned 31.12.2016
N Griffin	- resigned 16.11.2015
S Moloney	- resigned 28.9.2015
J M Skillman	- resigned 21.3.2016

Company Secretary

P G Ryley

Independent examiner

Ward Goodman
4 Cedar Park
Cobham Road
Ferndown Industrial Estate
Wimborne
Dorset
BH21 7SF

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Shaftesbury Arts Centre for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company 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 charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on and signed on its behalf by:

.....
P G Ryley - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Shaftesbury Arts Centre**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2016 set out on pages twelve to twenty one.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is required.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of Sections 394 and 395 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)

have not been met; or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

J A Richardson
ACA FCCA DChA
Ward Goodman
4 Cedar Park
Cobham Road
Ferndown Industrial Estate
Wimborne
Dorset
BH21 7SF

Date:

Shaftesbury Arts Centre

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 August 2016**

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	Year Ended 31.8.16 Total funds £	Period 1.10.14 to 31.8.15 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Charitable activities	5				
Music and drama group productions		34,842	-	34,842	24,589
Touring theatre		4,235	-	4,235	3,156
Art group		228	-	228	536
Film		5,627	-	5,627	4,515
Gallery		17,923	-	17,923	7,085
Live music		12,150	-	12,150	7,899
Other income		9,861	-	9,861	1,753
Programme adverts and sales		7,162	-	7,162	1,502
Room letting		14,580	-	14,580	10,255
Subscriptions		16,380	-	16,380	13,540
Bar and Catering		12,407	-	12,407	8,079
Other fundraising activities	3	550	26,390	26,940	19,298
Investment income	4	<u>20</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>-</u>
Total		135,965	26,390	162,355	102,207
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		3,312	-	3,312	-
Charitable activities	6				
Music and drama group productions		14,861	-	14,861	9,306
Touring theatre		3,520	-	3,520	2,977
Art group		790	-	790	700
Film		3,915	-	3,915	3,577
Live music		10,984	-	10,984	7,806
Programme adverts and sales		8,390	-	8,390	7,775
Bar and Catering		3,440	-	3,440	3,045
Other running costs		<u>65,865</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65,865</u>	<u>48,789</u>
Total		115,077	-	115,077	83,975
NET INCOME		20,888	26,390	47,278	18,232
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		634,937	20,642	655,579	637,347
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>655,825</u>	<u>47,032</u>	<u>702,857</u>	<u>655,579</u>

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements

Shaftesbury Arts Centre

**Balance Sheet
At 31 August 2016**

	Notes	2016 £	2015 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	11	785,474	783,712
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	12	1,568	1,389
Cash at bank		<u>70,798</u>	<u>38,118</u>
		72,366	39,507
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(44,500)	(36,540)
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		<u>27,866</u>	<u>2,967</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			
		813,340	786,679
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due after more than one year	14	(110,483)	(131,100)
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NET ASSETS		<u>702,857</u>	<u>655,579</u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds:			
General fund	18	320,825	299,937
13 Bell Street Revaluation Reserve		<u>335,000</u>	<u>335,000</u>
		655,825	634,937
Restricted funds		<u>47,032</u>	<u>20,642</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>702,857</u>	<u>655,579</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Shaftesbury Arts Centre

Balance Sheet - continued
At 31 August 2016

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 August 2016.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2016 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
J C Parker -Trustee

Shaftesbury Arts Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2016

1. LEGAL FORM

Shaftesbury Arts Centre is a private charitable company registered in England and Wales, limited by guarantee (limited to £10 per member). Company number 05336078 and registered charity number 1109836. The registered office can be found on page 2.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Income

Incoming resources primarily represents ticket sales and related fees for performances conducted in the year. Gift vouchers and tickets sold in advance are included in creditors as deferred income.

Incoming resources from the Gallery are shown net of payments made to Artists as it is considered that the charitable company acts as an agent in these transactions.

Donations and legacies are included where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grants are recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability. Grant income is deferred when the donor specifies use of the grant to be in the future, or where there are conditions for full entitlement and those conditions have not yet been satisfied.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Costs of fundraising activities are those incurred in activities designed to raise donations for a particular project.

Charitable activities include expenditure associated with the staging of shows and include both the direct costs and support costs relating to these activities.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Plant and machinery - 20% on reducing balance

Freehold property is initially measured at cost and subsequently under the revaluation model. No depreciation is provided. An annual impairment review is undertaken.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Shaftesbury Arts Centre

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2016**

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

3. OTHER FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

	Year Ended 31.8.16 £	Period 1.10.14 to 31.8.15 £
Fundraising events	<u>26,940</u>	<u>19,298</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Year Ended 31.8.16 £	Period 1.10.14 to 31.8.15 £
Deposit account interest	<u>20</u>	<u>-</u>

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Activity	Year Ended 31.8.16 £	Period 1.10.14 to 31.8.15 £
Production and events income	Music and drama group productions	34,842	24,589
Production and events income	Touring theatre	4,235	3,156
Production and events income	Art group	228	536
Production and events income	Film	5,627	4,515
Production and events income	Gallery	17,923	7,085
Production and events income	Live music	12,150	7,899
Production and events income	Other income	9,861	1,753
Production and events income	Programme adverts and sales	7,162	1,502
Production and events income	Room letting	14,580	10,255
Production and events income	Subscriptions	16,380	13,540
Production and events income	Bar and Catering	12,407	8,079
		<u>135,395</u>	<u>82,909</u>

Shaftesbury Arts Centre

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2016**

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct costs	Support costs (See note 7)	Totals
	£	£	£
Music and drama group productions	14,861	-	14,861
Touring theatre	3,520	-	3,520
Art group	790	-	790
Film	3,915	-	3,915
Live music	10,984	-	10,984
Programme adverts and sales	8,390	-	8,390
Bar and Catering	3,440	-	3,440
Other running costs	<u>12,823</u>	<u>53,042</u>	<u>65,865</u>
	<u>58,723</u>	<u>53,042</u>	<u>111,765</u>

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Finance	Other	Governance costs	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Other running costs	<u>756</u>	<u>49,766</u>	<u>2,520</u>	<u>53,042</u>

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	Year Ended 31.8.16	Period 1.10.14 to 31.8.15
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	573	134
Independent Examination	<u>1,320</u>	<u>-</u>

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 August 2016 nor for the period ended 31 August 2015.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 August 2016 nor for the period ended 31 August 2015.

Shaftesbury Arts Centre

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2016**

10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Charitable activities			
Music and drama group productions	24,589	-	24,589
Touring theatre	3,156	-	3,156
Art group	536	-	536
Film	4,515	-	4,515
Gallery	7,085	-	7,085
Live music	7,899	-	7,899
Other income	1,753	-	1,753
Programme adverts and sales	1,502	-	1,502
Room letting	10,255	-	10,255
Subscriptions	13,540	-	13,540
Bar and Catering	8,079	-	8,079
Other fundraising activities	<u>7,312</u>	<u>11,986</u>	<u>19,298</u>
Total	90,221	11,986	102,207
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Music and drama group productions	9,306	-	9,306
Touring theatre	2,977	-	2,977
Art group	700	-	700
Film	3,577	-	3,577
Live music	7,806	-	7,806
Programme adverts and sales	7,775	-	7,775
Bar and Catering	3,045	-	3,045
Other running costs	<u>48,789</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>48,789</u>
Total	83,975	-	83,975
NET INCOME	6,246	11,986	18,232
Transfers between funds	<u>(7,080)</u>	<u>7,080</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds	(834)	19,066	18,232
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	<u>635,771</u>	<u>1,576</u>	<u>637,347</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>634,937</u></u>	<u><u>20,642</u></u>	<u><u>655,579</u></u>

Shaftesbury Arts Centre

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2016**

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Plant and machinery £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 September 2015	783,176	4,991	788,167
Additions	<u>-</u>	<u>2,335</u>	<u>2,335</u>
At 31 August 2016	<u>783,176</u>	<u>7,326</u>	<u>790,502</u>
 DEPRECIATION			
At 1 September 2015	-	4,455	4,455
Charge for year	<u>-</u>	<u>573</u>	<u>573</u>
At 31 August 2016	<u>-</u>	<u>5,028</u>	<u>5,028</u>
 NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 August 2016	<u>783,176</u>	<u>2,298</u>	<u>785,474</u>
At 31 August 2015	<u>783,176</u>	<u>536</u>	<u>783,712</u>

The freehold property at 13 Bell Street was transferred to the company at valuation in February 2007.

12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2016 £	2015 £
Trade debtors	101	1,389
Other debtors	441	-
Prepayments	<u>1,026</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>1,568</u>	<u>1,389</u>

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2016 £	2015 £
Bank loans and overdrafts (see note 15)	22,188	22,189
Trade creditors	10,523	8,825
Accrued expenses	<u>11,789</u>	<u>5,526</u>
	<u>44,500</u>	<u>36,540</u>

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2016 £	2015 £
Bank loans (see note 15)	106,483	127,100
Other loans (see note 15)	<u>4,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>
	<u>110,483</u>	<u>131,100</u>

Shaftesbury Arts Centre

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2016**

15. LOANS

An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:

	2016 £	2015 £
Amounts falling due within one year on demand:		
Bank loans	<u>22,188</u>	<u>22,189</u>
Amounts falling due after one year on demand:		
Bank loans	<u>106,483</u>	<u>127,100</u>
Amounts falling due with no set repayment date:		
Other loans	<u>4,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>

With respect to other loans, this amount is a loan from members free of interest with no repayment date agreed.

16. SECURED DEBTS

The following secured debts are included within creditors:

	2016 £	2015 £
Bank loans	<u>128,671</u>	<u>149,289</u>

Bank loans are secured by a fixed charge over 13 Bell Street and 11 Bell Street and also by a fixed and floating charge over current and future assets including book debts, fixtures, plant and machinery.

17. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	2016 Total funds £	2015 Total funds £
Fixed assets	785,474	-	785,474	783,712
Current assets	25,334	47,032	72,366	39,507
Current liabilities	(44,500)	-	(44,500)	(36,540)
Long term liabilities	<u>(110,483)</u>	-	<u>(110,483)</u>	<u>(131,100)</u>
	<u>655,825</u>	<u>47,032</u>	<u>702,857</u>	<u>655,579</u>

Shaftesbury Arts Centre

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2016**

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.9.15 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.8.16 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	299,937	20,888	320,825
13 Bell Street Revaluation Reserve	<u>335,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>335,000</u>
	634,937	20,888	655,825
Restricted funds			
Raise the Roof fund	20,642	26,390	47,032
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>655,579</u>	<u>47,278</u>	<u>702,857</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	135,965	(115,077)	20,888
Restricted funds			
Raise the Roof fund	26,390	-	26,390
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>162,355</u>	<u>(115,077)</u>	<u>47,278</u>

Restricted Funds

The Raise the Roof fund is restricted to expenditure relating to building work to improve the freehold property.

Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use on charitable expenditure at the discretion of the trustees. Included within unrestricted funds is a revaluation reserve which represents the amount of an unrealised gain on the revaluation of the freehold property to market value.

19. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 August 2016.

20. FIRST YEAR ADOPTION

On transition to SORP FRS 102, reclassification adjustments were made to comparative figures.

Governance costs are now presented within charitable activities rather than separately on the face of the SOFA.

Transitional relief

On transition to FRS 102, the charity has taken advantage of the following transitional relief:

No transitional reliefs permitted on transition to FRS 102 were taken advantage of.

Shaftesbury Arts Centre

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 August 2016**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Year Ended 31.8.16 Total funds £	Period 1.10.14 to 31.8.15 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS				
Other fundraising activities				
Fundraising events	550	26,390	26,940	19,298
Investment income				
Deposit account interest	20	-	20	-
Charitable activities				
Production and events income	<u>135,395</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>135,395</u>	<u>82,909</u>
Total incoming resources	135,965	26,390	162,355	102,207
EXPENDITURE				
Raising donations and legacies				
Fundraising	3,312	-	3,312	-
Charitable activities				
Advertising	5,735	-	5,735	5,627
Cost of sales	50,338	-	50,338	35,148
Credit card charges	<u>2,650</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,650</u>	<u>1,933</u>
	58,723	-	58,723	42,708
Support costs				
Finance				
Bank charges	756	-	756	539
Other				
Rates and water	4,272	-	4,272	3,514
Insurance	5,702	-	5,702	4,792
Light and heat	9,760	-	9,760	7,575
Telephone	1,365	-	1,365	998
Postage and stationery	4,250	-	4,250	2,316
Sundries	2,761	-	2,761	1,816
Licences	2,077	-	2,077	313
Premises running costs	15,005	-	15,005	16,120
Website maintenance	989	-	989	-
Plant and machinery	573	-	573	134
Bank loan interest	1,314	-	1,314	1,359
Mortgage	<u>1,698</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,698</u>	<u>1,778</u>
	49,766	-	49,766	40,715

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Shaftesbury Arts Centre

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 August 2016**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Year Ended 31.8.16 Total funds £	Period 1.10.14 to 31.8.15 Total funds £
Governance costs				
Accountancy and legal fees	-	-	-	13
Accountancy fees	<u>2,520</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,520</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>2,520</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,520</u>	<u>13</u>
Total resources expended	115,077	-	115,077	83,975
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net income	<u>20,888</u>	<u>26,390</u>	<u>47,278</u>	<u>18,232</u>

Shaftesbury Arts Centre

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 24 February 2016

Attendees: V Baker, J Baldwin, J Cadmore, S Cadmore, R Drewett, G Ewart-Dean, A Harrison, M Hawkins, A Hoskins, C Hughes, S Hunt, C Lloyd, R Lloyd, M Longfoot, R Longfoot, P Moull, J Neaser, S Neaser, Je Parker, Jo Parker, K Pickard, J Pierce, S Pocock, S Roberts, P Ryley, J Skillman, K Stott, M Thomas, R Thomas.

Apologies: B Arnold, D Baldwin, C Dunford, A Hawkins, L Hide, R King, B Lewis, S Minshaw, M Pennell, B Piquet, C Pollock, C Sims, M Sims.

Welcome: The Chairman, Jenny Parker, opened the meeting by welcoming members and encouraging them to stay after the formal business had been completed to network with other members and directors.

Resolution 1. Minutes: With two minor corrections on page 3 (replacing the name “Richard Thomas” by the name “Sue Neaser”, and by inserting the words “professionalism of the” before the phrase “weekly newsletters and the website”), the minutes of the last AGM of 6 May 2015 were agreed by the members to be a correct record and were signed as such by the then chairman (and current vice-chairman), John Cadmore.

Matters Arising: In answer to Sue Neaser’s question regarding the bar(s) opening, John Cadmore replied that many people appeared to prefer to remain in the gallery/foyer area. He also stated that in his view it was more efficient use of volunteer time to have only one bar open. Richard Lloyd and Michael Hawkins both commented that in their experiences, most people seemed happy with the downstairs bar.

Chairman’s Report: Jenny Parker prefaced her (written) report (included within the Annual Report) by thanking our patrons (Proctor, Cole, Watts and Rutter; Rutter’s Solicitors; and the Shaftesbury Town Council) for their continuing support, noting that the Mayor had made the Arts Centre his special charity for this year. She then added as a post-script the views that last week-end’s Civic Day for many local mayors and other dignitaries, which had included lunch at and a tour of the Centre, had been a wonderful success: the SAC catering team led by Sue Cadmore, had turned up trumps, again! She finished by formally thanking her predecessor, John Cadmore, for his 5 years as Chairman and for his continuing support as vice-chairman.

Treasurer’s Report: John Skillman gave an update to his written report (again, within the Annual Report) in that the Raise the Roof Fund had increased since 31 August, from some £13,500 to over £22,000. He re-iterated that the underlying reason for the reported deficit last year was the change in accounting date to 31 August, thus omitting the traditionally high levels of membership and other income in September: without the change the result would probably have been a surplus of about £12,000. He also confirmed, in answer to a question from Richard Thomas, that the mortgages were still being paid as scheduled each month and would be paid off on time by 2023.

Resolution 2. Accounts: Simon Hunt proposed, and Michael Hawkins seconded, that the Accounts for the period to 31 August 2015, as included within the Annual Report be adopted: the resolution was carried without dissension.

Resolution 3. Election of Directors: Jenny introduced Peter Ryley as the new company secretary and confirmed that as a new director appointed by the Board since the last AGM he had stood for re-election. She also introduced John Pierce who had stood for election as a new director, and she confirmed that there were four directors retiring by rotation and standing for re-election (herself, Christina Dunford, Amber Harrison and Richard Lloyd). On request to the AGM the six candidates for the six vacant director posts were (re-)elected without dissent.

Any Other Business: In response to a question from Sandy Roberts regarding supermarkets’ “community chests”, Sue Cadmore stated that SAC had been in discussions with them and Jenny Parker confirmed that the Co-Op hoped to be working with us next year.

In reply to a question from Julian Neaser regarding the potential, in this time of very low interest rates, for charities to invest in premium bonds, Peter Ryley stated that as far as he knew there was nothing to stop

charities so investing. However, he also pointed out that there were other options available to charities, such as investment in Charibond and/or Charifund (as is done by the Abbey Museum), and that all appropriate options would be considered by the Board.

Steve Pocock requested clarification regarding the position of the Youth Theatre Group vis-à-vis the professional company that was now operating a Youth Theatre function at the Arts Centre. Jenny Parker clarified that the situation was exactly analogous to the SAC Art Group operating at the same time as professional artists offering courses/classes to fee-paying customers at the Arts Centre.

Richard Thomas asked for an update regarding Stage IV of the Arts Centre development programme. Jenny confirmed that a pre-application had been submitted to the planning authority, NDDC, and that if the response were to be favourable, then a formal planning application and a bid to the Arts Council for capital funding would be submitted this summer, to meet the target date for completion of 2020. She also confirmed to Julian Neaser that the cost estimate of £750,000 had been re-assessed only a few months ago.

Finally, Jenny announced that, for personal reasons, John Skillman was having to resign as Treasurer. She thanked John for his 2 years' service to SAC, wished him well, and asked the AGM that if anyone knew of a potential successor, they inform one of the SAC directors as soon as possible.

At 8pm Jenny declared the meeting closed.

