



NORTH TAUNTON PARTNERSHIP

ANNUAL REPORT

1st APRIL 2019

to

31st MARCH 2020



Registered Charity no.1078827

NORTH TAUNTON PARTNERSHIP
ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20
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Photo courtesy of Somerset Art Works at our Pride in Priorswood event

MISSION STATEMENT

The Charity's objects are to promote charitable purposes for the benefit of the community of North Taunton and in particular the advancement of education, the promotion of health and the relief of poverty, sickness and distress

APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

The constitution governs the appointment of Trustees who are elected at the Annual General Meeting from partner organisations.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF TRUSTEES

NAME	POSITION	ELECTED	RESIGNED
Paul Tooze	Trustee Chair	April 2011 September 2017	
Libby Lisgo	Trustee	November 2011	
Chris Mitchell	Trustee Vice Chair	December 2013 September 2017	
Catherine Berry	Trustee	September 2014	
Brenda Weston	Trustee	September 2016	
Paul Cram	Trustee	September 2017	
Angela Bolitho	Trustee	February 2020	
Mark Wood	Trustee	February 2020	

“Thank for you spending the time with me and sharing lots about your caring organisation; I felt very welcomed”.

STAFF

Lesley Council – Community Centre Manager
Tracy Wood – Finance and Administration Officer
Catherine Beal – Cleaner

All staff work part time and equate to 1.8 full time equivalents.

Contact details:

Mrs Lesley Council,
Priorswood Community Centre,
Priorswood Place,
Taunton
TA2 7JW
Telephone 01823 353643
Email: lesley.priorswoodcc@yahoo.co.uk
Website www.priorswoodcommunitycentre.co.uk

VOLUNTEERS

Management costs are kept to a minimum through the use of volunteers for daily operation of the Community Centre. There are 42 volunteers who gave 3,489.5 hours of time during the year. In addition, 8 Trustees gave around 1040 hours during the year.

This represents £40765.50 of unpaid hours.



PARTNERSHIP MEMBERS

- Age UK Somerset
- Avon & Somerset Police
- Christians Against Poverty/Vineyard Church
- Citizens Advice Taunton
- Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue
- Everyone Active
- Furnitrust
- Get Set Services (Hillside Children's Centre)
- Housing Associations
- Leonard Houlden Court (Housing & Care 21)
- LiveWest Housing
- Lyngford Park Primary School
- Lyngford Park Surgery
- North Taunton One Team
- Oakwood Church
- Priorswood Library
- Priorswood Primary School
- Read Easy Taunton and Wellington
- Rowbarton Church
- Selworthy School Oakhill and Hazlebrook Campus
- Sky College
- Somerset Activity and Sports Partnership (SASP)
- Somerset Advice Network
- Somerset Community Credit Union
- Somerset County Council
- Somerset Skills & Learning
- Somerset U Can Do
- Spaeda
- St Andrews Church
- St Peters Church
- St Teresa of Lisieux Church
- Taunton Academy
- Somerset West and Taunton Council
- Taunton North Youth Club
- Taunton Street Pastors
- Wellsprings Community Church

- Wellsprings Primary School
- Zing Somerset



“Coming in here means I am not alone, I am not in the right head space but coming in and talking really helps me”.

CHAIR'S REPORT by Paul Tooze

This year the Community Centre has once again been a vital resource for many isolated and vulnerable residents within the North Taunton area. It offers a friendly and safe place where members of the community can come for advice, or simply to enjoy the company of others. As you can see from the details within this report, we have continued to offer a wide range of surgeries, classes, discussion groups and clubs. Usage of these services continues to grow and demonstrate their value to many people in the area. We have also seen a very large increase in visits to the Centre's website this year, which offers insight into the centre's importance as a resource for information, signposting, and that many now recognise it as an essential hub within the community.

Our regular series of annual events, such as the seasonal bazaars and markets, as well as the 'Pride In Priorswood' events during the school holidays were all very well attended. Raising much needed funds and providing local families with hours of positive activities and entertainment, these events are now very much established in the community's



calendar.

I am pleased to report that our accounts are in good order and are frequently scrutinised by the Trustees. All of the Centre's policy documents relating to health and safety, and good operating practices are also reviewed on an annual basis to ensure they are updated and improved when required. Again, the primary focus this year has been on identifying and applying for sources of funding and grants, which are vital to the Centre if we are to continue to offer activities, classes and support. This year for the first time, the trustees have met on numerous occasions specifically to discuss fund-raising, and to formulate new ways of sustaining the services



we provide, in what is now a very challenging environment. This year we have been extremely fortunate to have a team of dedicated and experienced trustees, whose insight and input ensures that the Partnership is always conscientiously and professionally run and continues to move forward, despite the challenges faced. Each of them has a wide range of skills which they bring to the role, and the time and effort they give is greatly appreciated. We are always seeking to add to our team of trustees and are keen to ensure that the board represents a diverse and representative cross-section of the community.

Together with the trustees, we are further strengthened by our partners, who have continued to work collaboratively during the year to provide the best services, support and activities throughout the community. I would like to thank them for their regular attendance and input at the Partnership meetings held across the year.

Finally, as always, my sincere thanks and gratitude goes to Lesley, Tracy, Catherine and all of the committed volunteers who continue to be the heartbeat of the Centre and give so much to the residents of North Taunton.

We look forward to another positive and productive year.



Manager's Report by Lesley Council

2019 – 20 saw the community centre continue to grow into the hub of community and the first port of call for local residents to access the help and support they need.

2019 started in much the same way as previous years with our Spring bazaar, this was well attended and brought together many young families who came to grab a bargain of which there were many, it's always a nice event as we not only use the centre for stalls but also the community garden where we served teas in the sunshine.

In May we received an invite from the National Trust who took a group of our volunteers and local residents to Wellington Monument to hear about the renovation works that are taking place, this was followed by a picnic which was enjoyed by everyone.



July I was invited to Taunton Rugby Club for an awards ceremony hosted by the Chair of Somerset County Council, Mr Nigel Taylor, who presented me with an award for Services to the Community, this was a great honour and totally unexpected.



Following this award, in July the Community Centre was nominated by the High Sheriff of Somerset, Mr Johnnie Halliday, for an award and I attend a garden party to see the awards ceremony.

2019 seemed to be the year our small charity was highlighted for the good work it does within the community of North Taunton as we were then nominated for the highest award a charity can receive, the Queens Award for Voluntary Service. Unfortunately we weren't

successful but to be nominated was a huge boost to the staff and volunteers and made all the hard work put in by the team worthwhile.

We continued over the year to offer all of our social, wellbeing and fitness groups along with training and support to so many people. As usual the highlight of the Community Centre's calendar was our summer youth activity project which again attracted a huge number of local families to enjoy activities and games on Lyngford Park over 5 Tuesdays in the summer holidays. I would like to thank all our funders who gave grants which enabled us to book all the activities on offer, to everyone who took the time to attend, to those that provided activities, helped run stalls and to everyone else that made the event such an enjoyable one.



2019/20 proved to be another good year in the life of the Community Centre and I would like to thank all our partners, funders, trustees and of course our fantastic team of volunteers who gave their time for free to help and support many isolated and vulnerable residents of North Taunton, my thanks also go to Tracy who kept the back office running so well and to Catherine who kept the centre looking so clean and tidy.

In March 2020 Priorswood Community Centre, along with the rest of the country and much of the world, had to close because of lockdown due to the covid-19 pandemic. The future, and planned activities are uncertain, but the one thing we are sure about is that we will re-open and we will find ways to continue to serve the community of which we are a part and about which we care so deeply.

“Well done to you and Lesley for your organisation. The community are very lucky to have you and your team”.

BREAKDOWN OF SERVICE USERS

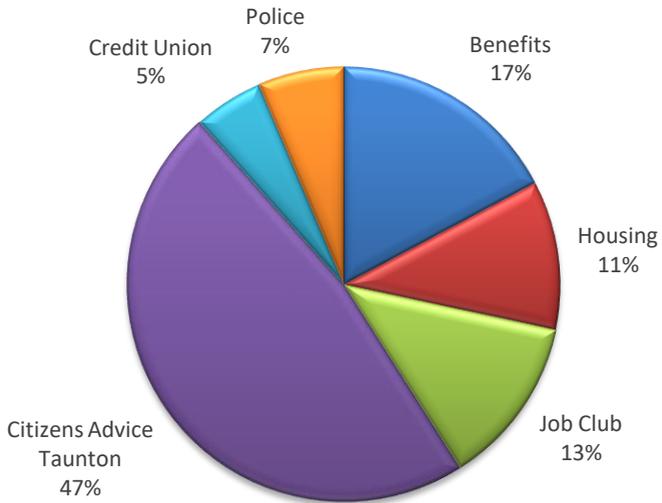
	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18
Cafe Customers	4518	4224	3969
Events	2121	2980	2853
Bric-a-Brac	1407	955	682
Scrabble & Games Group	513	468	402
Circuits	512	540	579
Lunch Club	382	579	553
General enquiries	357	390	380
Tai Chi Class	334	418	191
Dominoes & Games Group	301	244	258
Computer Group	286	271	222
Knit & Natter	275	329	209
Citizens Advice Taunton	184	210	193
History Project/History Group	146	128	-
Tea and Talk	70	84	87
Somerset West & Taunton Benefits Advisor	67	40	36
Cooking	54	54	98
Job Club	49	35	79
Write2Read	44	44	43
Somerset West & Taunton Housing Advisor (Advisor no longer supplied)	43	102	127
Health Walks	40	0	11
Police	25	25	51
Credit Union	20	66	143
Creative Writers Group (Started Nov 2019)	14	-	-
NHS & Health Related	3	33	113
Walking Netball (Discontinued Dec 2019)	71	222	340
Seated Exercise (Discontinue Aug 2019)	51	29	56
Enquiring Minds Discussion Group (Discontinued Feb 2020)	40	73	47
Craft Group (Discontinued Dec 2019)	23	25	23
Bereavement Support (Discontinued Sept 2019)	8	2	-
Community Computer (Stats no longer sent by SWT Council)	-	140	111
Mind Wellbeing Support (Discontinued Aug 2019)	-	2	7
TOTAL SERVICE USERS	11,958	12,783	11,866

***Data shows a snapshot of users to the Community Centre.**

There were 15,270 unique visitors to the website in 2019-2020.

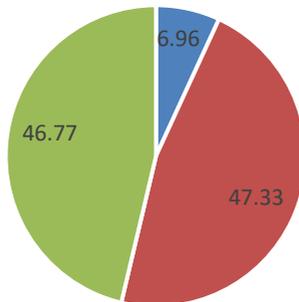
£767.36 was saved by Credit Union users.

Number of Surgery Users 2019-2020



■ Benefits ■ Housing ■ Job Club ■ Citizens Advice Taunton ■ Credit Union ■ Police

Percentage Increase in Users 2019-2020



■ Cafe Customers ■ Bric-a-Brac ■ Website Usage

**DELIVERY PLAN:
Business Plan 2019/2020**

	Objectives	Desired Outcomes	Measures and Timescale	Actual Outcome
1	Recruit and train volunteers to meet the needs of the service.	Ensure recruitment is open to all. To have sufficient volunteers to operate the service. To aid volunteers to gain paid employment. Recruit professionally qualified volunteers for specific jobs. Recognise volunteer service with awards.	Increased numbers of volunteers. Numbers of volunteers gaining paid employment. Ongoing timescale.	6 new volunteers. 2 students from Richard Huish College came to run an exercise group as part of their degree. 1 student from Richard Huish on work experience. 1 student from The Taunton Academy as part of Duke of Edinburgh Award. 7 service awards presented. 1 Volunteer gained employment.
2	To continue to operate the Priorswood Community Centre.	Maximise use of the facility and to gain funding to meet the core costs.	Daily usage of the Centre. Ongoing timescale.	11958 football in the Community Centre.

3	To offer a facility for advice surgeries to be held.	To continue to host: Citizens Advice SWT Housing and Benefits Police Inspired to Achieve	All surgeries to be held. Ongoing timescale.	SWT Housing Officer not provided at present.
4	To maintain the Hallmark 1 accreditation.	To maintain Hallmark 1.	Ongoing.	Hallmark 1 maintained.
5	To provide a Lunch Club for local residents.	To provide a hot lunch once a week. To ensure sufficient volunteers are available each week to serve the food. To ensure transport is available. Provide a warm social setting for eating the meal. Organise an outing for lunch club members.	To be attended by a minimum of 10 people each week A minimum of 5 volunteers are available One outing a year Timescale ongoing	Footfall of 382 Summer outing to Burnham-On-Sea with lunch at the Brent House Restaurant.

		To collect and bank the money to move towards sustainable self-funding.		
6	To provide gentle exercise classes.	To provide a venue and tutor for the classes. To collect and bank the income to move towards sustainable self-funding.	To be attended by a minimum of 6 people each week.	Footfall of 334 Active Living grant.
7	To organise food, nutrition and cookery classes.	To provide education about diet and health to encourage better health.	A minimum of 6 people attending.	54 footfall.
8	To organise and manage a speaker led group – Tea and Talk.	To organise speakers. To ensure volunteers on hand to support the group.	To be attended by a minimum of 8 people each month. Timescale once a month.	Footfall 70
9	To organise and deliver open access community events aimed at young people each school holiday. To raise the funds required to hold the events.	To ensure sufficient volunteers are available. To entertain, educate and prevent anti-social behaviour. Events to be held: Easter holiday Summer holiday October holiday Christmas holiday February holiday	1 day events to be attended by a minimum of 30 young people. 1 day in each school holiday.	Easter 60 Summer 1500 October 15 December 350 February 6

10	To work with local schools to offer work experience.	To help give young people skills towards their CV.	To give as many opportunities as possible.	1 student from Richard Huish College on work experience, 2 students running an exercise group as part of their degree. 1 student from The Taunton Academy as part of Duke of Edinburgh Award.
11	To organise weekly social groups.	To offer a warm, friendly environment for residents to socialise and play board games.	To be attended by a minimum of 5 people twice a week To be self-funding To be held weekly except public holidays	Footfall of 814
12	To hold cooking classes	To teach basic cooking skills to men with no or limited cookery experience.	To be attended by 5.	Footfall of 54
13	To organise a discussion group	To offer the Enquiring Minds discussion once a month. To ensure a volunteer is on hand to run the session.	To be attended by a minimum of 5 people each month. To be self-funding. Timescale once a month.	Footfall 40 Discontinued February 2020.

14	To organise and hold 2 community bazaars	To raise awareness of the Community Centre. To help recruit new volunteers.	To raise £750 a year To be held Spring and Autumn	Spring bazaar 60 footfall, £337.23 raised. Autumn bazaar 85 football, £475.85 raised.
15	To organise and hold a Christmas Market.	To engage with the community as a whole for stall holders and visitors.	To raise £1000 To be held once in December	22 stallholders £1,128.83 raised Footfall 350.
16	To host a community computer provided by Somerset West & Taunton for use with the Homefinder and other agencies.	Easier access for residents to access on-line information.	Recruit and train volunteers to assist residents. Timescale – ongoing.	SWT hold statistics. Computer has not been operational for several months and is awaiting upgrade and repair.
17	To be the voice of the community whilst staying politically neutral.	To enable local residents to have their say and to be able to forward these concerns to the appropriate agency.	Ongoing.	
18	To organise a computer support group.	To offer volunteer led basic computer help in a social setting.	To be attended by 5 people each week	Footfall 286
19	To offer basic First Aid training when required.	To offer a course when a need is highlighted.	To be attended by a minimum of 8 people.	On-line training

20	To organise a craft group.	To facilitate an interactive social group who will share their skills.	Classes to be held monthly with 6 people attending	Footfall 23 Discontinued December 2019.
21	To work in partnership with the North Taunton One Team.	To be in communication with the Coordinator to exchange relevant information.	Timescale ongoing.	On-going.
22	Seek to be dementia friendly.	To facilitate the appropriate agencies to deliver training when required.	Timescale ongoing	On-going.
23	To offer training as part of volunteering.	To offer all volunteers the chance to take part in training opportunities and self-development	Timescale ongoing	On-going
24	To produce a newsletter to staff and volunteers.	To inform staff and volunteers of any changes, updates, regulations and events.	Quarterly.	On-going.
25	To produce a newsletter for local residents.	To produce a community newsletter, 1500 copies	Spring, Summer and Winter	1300 copies now produced as many are sent by email.
26	To offer information leaflets and signposting facility.	To offer a signposting facility for mental health, domestic violence etc.	Timescale ongoing.	On-going.

TREASURERS REPORT

The North Taunton Partnership used Beechwood Consulting as our accountants and advisors on financial matters.

During the year we have received grants and donations from both organisations and individuals. We would like to thank them for their support as this has enabled us to have another very successful year with many local residents benefitting from our services.

Grants received from:

Somerset Community Foundation
Active Living
Somerset West & Taunton Council
Bishop Fox Educational Trust
Taunton Aid in Sickness Fund
Tenants Forum
Asda Community Fund
Somerset County Councillor budget
The Ashfords Foundation
Friends of Priorswood Library
Unparished Area Fund

RESERVES POLICY

The Trustees are aware of their obligations under charity law and therefore set out the policy for the use of reserve funds.

It is the aim of the Trustees to build up unreserved funds to the following level:

6 months direct costs of £15,000

Capital replacement of £5,000

Special projects of £5,000

TOTAL £25,000

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis to encompass changes in circumstances and any economic situation affecting the charity.

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE PERIOD
ENDED 31ST MARCH 2020**

Receipts and Payment Account	Unrestrict ed Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 Adjusted £
Receipts				
Grants				
Grants	14,500	18,485	32,985	47,307
Donations	1,709	0	1,709	725
Interest	49	0	49	39
Activities				
Community Centre Sales	5,719	0	5,719	5,016
Community Social Education	6,725	0	6,725	7,998
Fundraising	613	0	613	539
Health & Wellbeing	1,298	0	1,298	974
Newsletter	6,021	0	6,021	7,431
Room Hire	643	0	643	595
Refunds & Misc	2,269	0	2,269	3,312
	34	0	34	620
TOTAL RECEIPTS	39,580	18,485	58,065	74,556
Payments				
Administration				
Staff Costs	29,073	11,185	40,258	37,041
Heat & Light	1,904	0	1,904	908
Phone & Internet	849	0	849	1,044
Water & Rates	1,087	0	1,087	932
Office Costs	3,214	500	3,714	3,249
Garden Maintenance	250	1,350	1,600	343
Fees	1,621	0	1,621	1,831
Newsletter	1,684	0	1,684	2,189
Garage Rent	338	0	338	615
Volunteers	416	0	416	451
Activities				

Health & Wellbeing	6,809	1,500	8,309	9,097
Education	0	0	0	382
Community Social	3,400	5,197	8,597	16,751
Fundraising	25	0	25	6
TOTAL PAYMENTS	50,670	19,732	70,402	74,839
<hr/>				
TOTAL SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	-11,090	-1,247	-12,337	-283
Opening Cash Funds	43,381	4,247	47,628	47,911
Closing Cash Funds	32,291	3,000	35,291	47,628

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Cash Funds				
CAF Cash	4,022	0	4,022	7,130
CAF Gold	24,838	3,000	27,838	32,788
Co-op	3,331	0	3,331	7,617
Petty Cash	100	0	100	93
TOTAL CASH FUNDS	32,291	3,000	35,291	47,628

Restricted Funds Breakdown	Bal b/f	Receipts	Payments	Bal c/f
SCC – Active Living	0	1,000	1,000	0
SCF – Core	0	850	850	0
Summer Activities	2,200	10,150	12,350	0
Xmas Activities	0	1,000	1,000	0
Lunch Club	0	500	500	0
SCF – Energy Grant	0	500	500	0
SW&T Notice Board	0	1,485	1,485	0
SCF – Mental Health Training	0	500	0	500
Unparished Area Fund	2,047	2,500	2,047	2,500
TOTAL RESTRICTED	4,247	18,485	19,732	3,000

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

North Taunton Partnership Accounts for the year ended March 2020

Notes to the Accounts

Accounting Policies

Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 permits a charity to prepare a receipts and payments account and a statement of assets and liabilities where gross income in the financial year does not exceed £250,000, therefore receipts and payments accounts and a statement of assets and liabilities has been prepared and presented for the year ended March 31st 2020; this is consistent with previous years.

All Income, including grants, is recorded when received.
All Expenditure is recorded when paid.

Cheques and deposits not cleared bank at 31st March 2020

There was one uncleared cheque totalling £460.
There were no uncleared cash deposits.



NORTH TAUNTON PARTNERSHIP **INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES**

I report on the accounts of North Taunton Partnership for the year ended 31st March 2020 which are set out on pages to 16 to 17.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

The charity trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The 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 needed.

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 INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

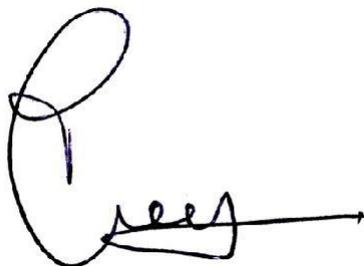
My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes a consideration of any unusual issues 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 statement below.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements

- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulation and
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of 2011 Act and section 44(1)(b) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulation.
- Has not been met or

No other matter has come to my attention in accordance with my examination to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Timothy Green', with a long horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

Timothy Green FCMA
29 Beechwood Drive
Crewkerne
TA18 7BY

Date: 5th May 2020

FUTURE PLANS

A Business and Development Plan has been produced by the Trustees setting out the objectives for the Partnership and Community Centre for the twelve months April 2020 to March 2021.

The Trustees declare that they have approved the trustees report above and that they have paid due regard to the Charity Commissions guidance on public benefit.

Signed on behalf of the North Taunton Partnership's trustees

**Paul Tooze
Chairman**



"The people there are happy and polite and friendly you can get lots of information there and pay your rent & council tax and report any repairs"



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TA2 7JW
01823 353643

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