



The Monday Night Club

Registered Charity no: 1160646

Annual Report

1 November 2016 - 31 October 2017

Chair's Report

Structure, Governance and Management

The Monday Night Club is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and is governed by constitution. The CIO is a registered charity with The Charity Commission of England and Wales.

The Annual General Meeting was held on 6th June 2017 at 7pm. Trustees at this time were:

Miss Laura Gill, Chair
Mrs Helen Gill, Treasurer
Mrs Bethany Trueman
Mrs Margaret Clarke – Barbourne Club representative
Mrs Jennifer Hewitt – family carer representative
Mr Max Chesterman – parent carer
Mr Richard Kenyon – volunteer representative
Mrs Beverley Alldrett - Secretary

The Chair, Treasurer and Mrs Trueman were re-elected for their positions. Richard Kenyon was elected as a new Trustee.

Policies and Procedures

The following Policies and Procedures are in place in the organisation and they are reviewed annually at the Trustee meetings.

- Health and Safety Policy
- First Aid Policy
- Procedure for dealing with an accident or emergency
- Financial Policies and Procedures
- Confidentiality Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Recruitment and Training of volunteers

The adoption and review of policies is an on-going duty of the Board.

Our bank account is with the Charities Aid Foundation Bank and its operation is governed by our Financial Policies and Procedures.

Risk assessments are carried out for all activities in accordance with our Employers Liability Insurance. We have separate insurance to cover disco equipment, the mobile disco and the football club.

Objectives and Activities

To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society through the provision of recreational and leisure activities and support to live a more independent life.

For the purpose of this clause 'socially excluded' means being excluded from society, or parts of society, as a result of being a member of a socially and economically deprived community but specifically for young people and adults with learning disabilities and autistic spectrum disorders in Worcestershire.

To further our objectives we continue to organise activities every Monday evening at Barbourne Ex-services Club.

This year our Monday night activities have included:

- Themed parties
- Birthday parties
- A talent show in a theatre
- Karaoke nights
- A summer barbeque
- Sports and Games nights
- A football tournament
- Dance and keep fit evenings
- Guest DJs and live music
- Guest entertainers
- Skittles matches
- An awards night

Day and evening trips

We organised day trips to Twycross Zoo and to Barry Island, taking a full coach to each, and we took a smaller group to the theatre. In January we took 147 people, including support staff and families, to the pantomime at The Swan Theatre. These trips were partly funded by our fund-raising income and partly by ticket sales.

Special Events

The Monday Night Club Has Got Talent was held at The Swan Theatre on Monday 2nd October 2017. This was also our 6th birthday. Over 250 people came to see the show. We had invited judges from the Swan Theatre and Worcester Snoezelen. The event was covered on social media and was extremely well received.

Football Club

To further our objectives of providing social activities to excluded groups, we continue to train our own football team. We achieved FA Charter Standard Adult Club status. One of our members with learning disabilities is a qualified FA (Level 1) coach.

The training of the team is kindly supported by Worcestershire FA and Disability Sport Worcester. We joined a disability football league and play in six tournaments across three counties during the season. We also play friendly matches with other disability teams and welcome players of all levels, from beginners. The training sessions and friendly matches are open to men and women. The manager and coaches have achieved FA qualifications.

Community Connections

During this year we have, once again, made efforts to increase our connections within the community and therefore promote our service to more people. We have actively sought collaboration with the Daisychain Benevolent Fund, Worcester Snoezelen, Speakeasy NOW, Barbourne Ex-Services Club, Disability Sport Worcester, Worcestershire FA, Worcester Wanderers Rugby Club, The Swan Theatre, Wild Goose Rural Training, The City of Worcester, Worcester Lions and Worcester Cathedral. We have taken part in events to promote services to the LD community in Worcestershire and been guests of The Mayor of Worcester in The Guild Hall.

Income and Expenditure

Our funds are generated by grants, donations and our £1 entrance fee. Our total income for the year was £23,635. Our entrance fee on the door amounted to £6,140.

We benefited from two large donations for special projects, i.e. restricted funds. £950 from Sanctuary Housing to paid for volunteers first aid training and a special party evening. We also received an Awards 4 All grant from The Big Lottery of £9050 for a project called RespectAbility. We have sponsorship of £80 per month from Barbourne Ex-Services Club for our football team and we had some smaller donations.

The greatest proportion of our funds was spent on sessional activities on Monday nights – organising parties, paying entertainers and other sessional workers – and contributions towards the cost of day and evening trips. The football club cost £2417. There were small costs for volunteers' expenses and printing and office expenses. Our total expenditure for the year was £18,473.

We have carried forward £5,166 at the end of the year.

Recognition and Success

The Club and our volunteers have been nominated for the Queens Award for Voluntary Service.

Outcomes

Our average number attending on Monday nights this year was 128. The highest number on one night was 154 and the lowest 90.

Strong bonds of friendship have formed amongst the members and are continued outside the club. This is particularly important to learning disabled and autistic people who find it difficult to make, and keep, friends and often feel socially excluded and isolated. Their parents, carers and families also benefit by mutual support and shared experiences.

We have a strong group of volunteers who have come from amongst the members of the club. They now take a large part in the organisation of club activities themselves. Several members have gained paid employment, apprenticeships, or other rewarding voluntary work this year. Others have moved out of the family home to live independently.

We have attracted a number of care leavers, who may have mild learning disabilities and behavioural challenges. They are not supported by the social care services and are learning to live independently, some with no support at all. We try to make them feel a valued part of our community and they are often chosen as volunteers.

The football club has added an opportunity to improve the health and well-being outcomes for our members, and significant improvements can be seen in the players in the last year. Additional challenges have been created for our volunteers in meeting the requirements of the FA.

We continue to publicise the club and new members come from various sources, including word of mouth, recommendation by social workers and press coverage. We communicate by email newsletter, print, social media and keep our website up-to-date.

We hope to continue to grow, to offer more activities, and to be a positive influence on as many socially excluded people as possible next year.

Signed

Laura Gill

Chair, The Monday Night Club Trustees
December 2017