Report of the Trustees

And Unaudited Financial Statement for the period:

1st February 2016 – 31st January 2017

For Queens Park Residents Association



Report of the Trustees:

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with financial statement of the charity for the period 1st February 2016 – 31st January 2017. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued in March 2005.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS:

Registered Company No. 05560680 (England and Wales) Registered Charity No. 1111733

Registered Office: 1A Langdale Place, Langdale Road, Blackpool, Lancashire FY4 4TR

Trustees:

Ms G. King

Mr C Porter

Ms D Morris

Ms A Allen

Mr B Allen

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, Memorandum and Articles of Association and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The charity may appoint a trustee by ordinary resolution. Between 14 - 35 days' notice before the general meeting must be given. The notice must state the trustee's intention to appoint a new trustee, be signed by a trustee eligible to vote at the meeting, contain the details that if the person were to be appointed the charity would have to file at Companies House and be signed by the person proposed as a trustee.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Induction and training of new trustees.

New trustees of the charity are presented with a copy of the guidelines to being a trustee as set out by the Charity Commission. The Chairman ensures new trustees are aware of their responsibilities regarding governance by providing literature from both the Charity Commission and Companies House and by using their own experience in this position to instruct them.

Organizational structure.

The trustees of the charity are also directors for the purposes of company law.

Risk Management.

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The charities objectives are:

- 1) To relieve poverty, advance training and education and provide facilities in the interest of social welfare for recreation and leisure-time occupation with the object of providing conditions of life for the inhabitants of the Mereside and Blackpool, irrespective of race, nationality, colour, sex, disability, sexual orientation, religious or political belief or marital status by associating together with the said inhabitants and the local and statutory authorities, voluntary and other organizations.
- 2) To establish or secure the establishment of a community centre or meeting place and to maintain and manage the same (whether alone or in co-operation with any local authority or other person or body) in furtherance of these objects ensuring equal access to all groups of the said centre.

The strategies for achieving the above objects during the year were:

Carryout out various projects and events.

Obtaining various grants and seeking to source additional funds.

The provision of fax, telephone, internet and photocopying facilities.

In addition, various committee members sit on many Council and Agency committees which allow networking and the passing of information to residents.

The trustees aim to ensure that at all times, the charity operates in such a way that it serves the public benefit. The trustees are of the opinion that they have complied with their duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the guidance published by the Charity Commission in this regard.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant activities.

The QPRA has continued to strengthen and consolidate its position on the Mereside Estate in Blackpool, following the redevelopment of its old offices on the Queens Park Estate in Blackpool.

They had just over 7,651 clients through their doors during the year that this report covers i.e. 1st February 2016 – 31st January 2017. This has meant that they have had to widen the scope of work that they undertake to include a lot more benefit and appeal tribunal work and they fully expect that this particular sector of their work will expand due to the benefit cuts, the introduction of the Universal Credit System and the UK economy in general.

In additional, the QPRA have worked in partnership with a local company in Blackpool, who supply health care workers to the care industry and local residents. We have run 5 courses which equates to around 51 local residents getting a CACHE qualification and Preparing to Work in Adult Social Care Level 2 Certificate. All of these attendees went on to become fully employed with Baxter Life Care. We intend to carry on this working relationship in future years.

The Future:

We fully intend to expand the work we do in future years to include employing additional staff with specialist skills i.e. the provision of a free legal service/clinic which will mean the employment of a qualified solicitor. We have found that the cutbacks in the Legal Aid service has meant that more and more people, especially those on benefits and low incomes, are falling through the social net and going without proper legal representation especially in the fields of Benefits, Housing, Immigration and Debt.

All in all, this year has proved to be another very successful one and we hope that next year will be an even more positive and productive one.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable Activities

The charity operates out of The Lakes Community Office on the Mereside estate and with the support of a Big Lottery Fund, it has been able to continue this community based project. As a result of this project, tenants and residents of the estate and Blackpool, are supported in various ways including understanding and completing forms for those with literacy difficulties, arranging visits by agencies such as social services and housing and debt counselling including managing their bill payments.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charities current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. It has not been possible to maintain this level of reserve through the year. Currently the organizations main activities are funded by a dedicated Big Lottery Fund grant and therefore funding is secure for the coming year.

Principal funding sources

As mentioned elsewhere the charity has received a Big Lottery grant amounting to £96,880 for this current year which goes to pay for core funding and capital costs.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The Queens Park Residents Association has gone from strength to strength since its formation in 2004. In this time, we have built a firm foundation upon which to build our future. Our plans develop all the time and are outlined elsewhere in this report.

Related Party Disclosures:

Miss G M King received remuneration for her services as the Community Development Worker respectively under a contract of employment approved by the trustees and approved in the company's Memorandum of Association dated 11-01-2008. Miss G M King is the only paid member of staff to hold a position of employment and as a trustee. There are 2 other paid employees. No remuneration was received by Miss G M King for her services as a trustee of the charity or as a director the company.

No other trustee received any remuneration during this period and none of the trustees receive any financial expenses for services provided to the charity

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the period ended 31 January 2017

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the period ended 31 January 2017 in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

(a) ensuring 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 the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with 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

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 Friday 27th October 2017.

Miss G M King - Trustee

Queens Park Residents Association Balance Sheet at 31 January 2017

INCOME	£0.00	EXPENDITURE	£0.00
Big Lottery Fund Restricted Ring Fenced	£96,880.00	Office Sundries	£ 1913.75
		Office Equipment/Furniture	£ 3825.81
		Utilities Combined	£ 5377.86
		Training Costs Combined	£ 3772.80
		Insurances Combined	£ 3037.67
		Travel/Transport Costs	£ 4423.99
		General Running Costs	£ 7864.12
·	-	Professional Fees Combined	£ 3978.00
	•	Wages-NI-Tax- Combined	£ 54,435.92
Total Income	£96,880.00	Total Costs	£91,768.07
		Total Funds Carried Forward	£5111.93

The Directors of the company have elected not to include a copy of the income statement within the financial statements.

For the financial year in question, the company was entitled to exemption under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

27 TH OCTOBER 2017.