

**Bacup Family Centre**  
**Minutes of AGM**  
**19<sup>th</sup> June 2023 - 12.30pm**

**Present:** Leila Allen, Rchel Allen, Zoe Leyland, Zoe Ashworth, Natasha Cartwright, Suzanne Craven, Janice Lewer, Suzanne Barnes, Andrew Walmsley, Di Isherwood, Julie McCabe, Kely Shaw, Collette Banham, John Atkinson, Vinny Hopkins, John Macnamara, Naomi Wharton, Matt Ryder, Derek Allen, Pat Smith, Alison Perry, Jo Emberton, John Fielding, Lyndsay Hayhurst, Jayde Holmes.

**Apologies:** Lynne Kemp, Peter Dunn, Janet O'Neill,

		Actions
1	<p><b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b>            Janice Lewer welcomed and thanked everyone for attending.            Brief introduction of all attendees, including our new Mayor &amp; Mayoress.            Derek gave a prayer of thanks.</p>	
2	<p><b>Minutes Agreed</b>            Minutes of the previous meeting were distributed by Janice Lewer and agreed by all present as correct.</p>	Agreed
3	<p><b>Financials</b></p> <p>We have had a funding deficit of £35,023 for the year.            Company income of £121,472.            Net assets of £72338 at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023            Seeking replacement funding for the year 23/24 is essential.</p> <p>John Fielding has been appointed the accountant for the year. Trustees have agreed to increase his fee from £750 to £1000. This if for 12 months accounting including wages and annual accounts. As always this is a very small amount for all of the work John does which is primarily voluntary - thankyou John for all you do.</p>	Agreed
4	<p><b>Appointment &amp; Re-appointment of Trustees</b></p> <p>Lynne Kemp            Alison Perry            Suzanne Craven            Jo Emberton            Janet O'Neill            Janice Lewer (Chair)</p> <p>All trustees were willing to stand for another year. Janice Lewer proposed the decision and all those present agreed.</p>	Agreed
5	<p><b>Annual Report</b></p>	

Leila summarized the Annual Report which, with our Audited Accounts/Financial Statement will be submitted to the Charities Commission and will be available online via their site. Items in the report included:

- The Project Aims & Objectives have stayed the same.
- Staff are working under the added pressure of knowing and working within the ongoing challenges of seeking replacement funding.
- Solutions Child & Youth Project has seen detached weekly youth work continue and increase the engagement we have with young people. We are in the final stages of securing a lease for a dedicated youth provision. We would like to thank all staff, volunteers and all subgroup members for their dedication with this project, it has not been easy, but the end result will be worth it.
- Our groups have continued to be well attended. The addition of our new group suitable for 8 - 11-year-olds has brought a new angle to our child and youth work, and we hope this will link in nicely with our older group in the coming years.
- The Listening Project in The Valley Academy currently has a waiting list due to its high success. This working partnership and success has been hugely encouraging.
- We have 33 families who have progressed so much that they no longer need support. In addition, we have seen some families and individuals reduce the amount of support required, for example their visits have reduced from weekly contact to monthly phone calls and ad hoc welfare checks
- "Giving a helping hand" has seen all family support and referrals increase. In the last 12 months we have almost doubled the number of families we work with.
- Over the 12 months from April 2021 - March 2022 we have worked with a total of 516 people. Including 63 families made up of 93 adults, 118 children & 43 young people.
- Ad-hoc emergency relief and support to 30 individuals.
- 27 young people received befriending and mentoring individual support.
- Empowered girl's group 12 young ladies attended.
- Listening project - has seen 17 young people in a school setting.
- Our newest 8 - 11-year-old group, which opened March is in the early stages and has seen 6 attendees so far.
- Weekly term-time pre-school Toddler group play total attendance 109.
- Adult Drop-in = 27 where ages range from 18 years to 75.
- Solutions - Weekly walkabouts, engagement days, youth nights - 79 young people have engaged with us through one or more of those activities.
- Thank you to all our volunteers for their help in groups, our pop-up shops and engagement events. We couldn't do what we do without your support! If anyone would like to volunteer or become a Trustee please do get in touch we are actively seeking both.

- The Empowered girl's group has proved to be an important initiative promoting empowerment, resilience, and positive self-image among these young girls. Over the next year it is our intention to reintroduce Empowered as a stand-alone group in our dedicated Youth Space.
- We continue to see an increase in referrals from statutory and other services who are only able to offer time limited support and specific packages of care
- Our befriending and mentoring scheme has continued to see numbers rising, this demonstrates its impact and relevance in the community. By providing this much-needed support and guidance we are making a positive difference in their lives and contributing to their overall well-being
- We are always happy to work with everybody and anybody! Our communication and working relationships with other agencies are essential in the work of the project and we foresee connections continue to grow.
- Past reports are available to view on the charities commission website.

## 6 Contributions from those present

Kelly & Julie - commented on the help Bacup Family Centre are able to give through support and that Monday Group benefits a lot of people and gets them out and taking part in social activity.

Janice (Chair of Trustees) commented on the volunteer hours figure of 621 being rather conservative as we know they do far more behind the scenes but even so that figure is fantastic! The positive links with other partner agencies means that together we can make even more of a difference. "We can't always solve everything - but we have a go!" and thanked all the people who put their trust in Bacup Family Centre. Thanked all the staff for how hard they work, beyond the hours they are paid for.

Andrew Walmsley (Mayor of Rossendale) "It's a pleasure to come today. Thank you for the trustees for all they do and the volunteer hours are fab! Conversations on the street where people know about BFC - we need to bottle that, it's really powerful work that is going on here and the energy that is out there. We know there is a need, and we contribute however small, that's what makes Bacup work as a community despite the challenges it has." - The Mayors' charity has committed to contributing to BFC - they were top of the list for fundraising - Andrew invited everyone to join the various events taking place over the Mayoral period and thanks the staff for their work especially in Solutions and youth work.

Collette - "Thanks to all the staff at BFC - they helped me last year when I was poorly and wasn't engaging and got me back to where I should be and thanks to Leila for taking me to the appointments, I wouldn't be well enough to be volunteering if it wasn't for the staff.

Vinny Hopkins - on behalf of Rossendale Police commented on how they had a family displaced before Christmas, a single lady with 4 children. Bacup Family Centre were able to provide toys for them, after hours when the Centre had

	<p>already closed for the Christmas break. "They go above and beyond. If they aren't here people wouldn't get the help</p> <p>Suzanne Barnes ( Children's Social Care ) - "They do fabulous work, thank you for all the help with all the referrals we send through, often working with families and schools where we don't engage as well because we are social care - it makes a difference. Thank you for all you do"</p>	
7	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>Janice Lewer - On behalf of all of the Trustees we would like to thank you all for coming today and we appreciate everyone's support and contribution to the project.</p> <p>Everyone is here today because Bacup Family Centre matters to you. Go out and spread the word tell everyone what we do!</p>	

Signed as a correct record:  Date 18.6.24