



**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT**  
**for the financial year ended 30 June 2020**

**Structure** Yelverton Community Projects is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (charity registration number 1177230). Its registered address is Overdale, Buckland Monachorum, Yelverton, PL20 7LQ. Its objects are:

“To relieve the needs of the elderly and to promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of the civil parishes of Buckland Monachorum and Burrator the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants.”

It currently has three operating arms: YelverCare, Yelverton Cinema and Yelverton Play Park. Trustees are responsible for the overall management of the charity and separate committees exist to support each of the three operating arms.

**Trustees** The following have served during the last financial year:

Ric Cheadle (Chair)	
Randall Williams (Secretary)	
Tony Chilvers (Treasurer)	
Mike Pike	
Chris Taylor	
Sam Whitehead	
Nuala McDermott	Retired 23 September 2019
Graham Brown	Appointed 23 September 2019
Margaret Garton	Retired 3 September 2019
Fiona Burbage	Appointed 31 March 2020
Nick Shutt	Retired 15 April 2019

Recruiting of trustees is done in a way that maintains a three part structure. Three trustees are Officers, three trustees are the nominee of each of the three operating arms and three trustees are “non-executive” trustees. The trustees responsible for the three operating arms are:

Mike Pike	YelverCare
Sam Whitehead	Yelverton Cinema
Graham Brown	Yelverton Play Park

Trustees are in the process of recruiting a replacement for Nick Shutt.

## Chairman's Annual Report 2019 - 2020

Once again it is with great pleasure that I present Yelvercare Community Projects' Annual Report for 2020 and I start, without apology by recording again my thanks to the Trustees and in turn, their thanks to all those who have contributed through volunteering; be that helping with the cinema, looking after the 'box' to match volunteers to requests for help, helping out with any of the events held throughout the year or looking after the Play Park. But, of course, this year has been far from ordinary.

Up until February 2020 the charity had been operating very much on a 'business as usual' basis. With the onset of the Coronavirus pandemic, all that was to change. At a stroke, the Play Park and Cinema closed and while at the time of writing the Play Park has just re-opened, the Cinema remains out of operation. But as two of the charity's 'arms' had to close, Yelvercare found itself in a position to fill a vital community role. The Government appealed for local 'community groups' to assist in the protection of the most vulnerable in society and while many such groups sprung up 'overnight', Yelvercare, having most of the required functionality, found itself at the centre of the local response. Very quickly 'covid protocols' were established and the charity's ability to help advertised. This led to two effects: the case load rapidly increasing and fortunately, the number of people wishing to volunteer rapidly rising. No fewer than 45 new volunteers offered their services. Credit is due to Randall Williams and Mike Pike who led the effort and also to all those who were able to step in as many of the established volunteers were themselves invited to shelter. The 'usual' task load changed to be replaced by prescription delivery, unaccompanied shopping for the vulnerable, befriending and referrals for help from the Local Authority. The essence of Yelvercare changed from being a 'helpful' service to a 'vital' one. At the time of writing (July 2020) activity is slowly returning to 'pre-covid' levels although it is expected that some elements, such as prescription deliveries, will remain well into the future.

Two grants relating to the covid epidemic were received. One was a £2,000 grant (90% of which was received during the year) from Devon County Council to cover volunteers' travel expenses (since the Trustees decided to offer shopping and prescription collection without inviting a contribution from clients). The other was also £2,000, from Maristow Trust, to help with special needs arising from the epidemic. Nominations were invited from the public for those who were suffering particular hardship and five cash grants were awarded by the selection panel. The distribution of these grants took place in July 2020 and the outgoings are not therefore reflected in the 2019 - 2020 accounts.

Concluding the 'covid' round-up, it is not lost on the Trustees nor those running local services that organisations such as Yelvercare, 'up and running' while others struggle to get on their feet, are immensely valuable. Our intention now is to impress upon our 'new' volunteers just how important this is. They may not continue to be 'active' but they know who we are, how to get in touch and what's required of them should another 'covid-like' event take place.

Covid aside, on the financial front, the charity continues to be well funded and our finances, in the capable hands of Tony Chilvers, our Treasurer, are in good shape. The main outlay in 2018-2019 was the MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) which has proved to be a popular addition to the Play Park and is used not only by youngsters but also by adults conducting outdoor fitness classes. As predicted, we have needed to replace some of the play park equipment and, given the park is some 20 years old, this refurbishment activity will need to continue. A recently approved planning application will result in a S106 contribution of £8,000 to the Play Park once the development has been completed.

Yelverton Cinema celebrated its 10th anniversary this year and was in full swing until forced to close its doors. We anticipate it will resume just as soon as the Government advice allows.

Finally, the Play Park, shut by the virus, has just re-opened much to the credit of Graham Brown and his team of volunteers. New covid signage has been installed and new fencing will be ordered shortly.

So Yelverton Community Projects continues under the watchful eye of the Trustees and through the generous time of the volunteers on whom we are totally dependent.

The Trustees would like to thank Nuala McDermott who stood down as the 'Play Park' Trustee to be replaced by Graham Brown. Fiona Burbage has replaced Margaret Garton, whose contribution was acknowledged in last year's report. Covid has interrupted our efforts to replace Nick Shutt but the new vicar has been approached and not said 'no' but asked for a little time to find his feet before taking on additional responsibilities.

In conclusion, I look forward to working with the Trustees over the next 12 months to ensure Yelverton Community Projects continues to deliver value to the Community in and around Yelverton.

### **Financial review**

Receipts during the year amounted to £17,119 compared to £30,382 in the previous year, which included S106 grant monies of £14,040. Two grants totalling £3,800 were received in May, close to the year end, £2,000 of which was for distribution to needy residents as a consequence of the Coronavirus pandemic. Payments during the year amounted to £11,112 plus £6,375 on improvements to the Play Park. Overall, there was a small deficit in the year of £368 leaving total reserves of £54,938.

It is recognised that a charity should not hold unnecessary reserves. However, the Play Park will require substantial refurbishment costs in due course and it is the trustees' policy to hold sufficient reserves to cover those costs without having to depend on external sources of funding.