



## **GREEN GATHERING CHARITY ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2016**

### **1. ORGANISATIONAL INFORMATION**

**Name of charity:** The Green Gathering

**Registered Charity no.:** 1156593

**Registered Company no.:** 07720425

**Principal Office:** Pantymaen, Four Roads, Kidwelly SA17 4SF

**Trustees:**

Susan Pickles

Chloe Wilson

Steven Muggeridge

Dedj Leibrandt

Kerne Spiralson

Richard Grant

**Bankers:** Cooperative Bank, PO Box 250, Delf House, Southway, Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

**Governing Documents:** Articles & Memorandum

### **2. TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEARS ENDING JULY 31ST 2015 & 2016**

**Structure, Governance and Management**

The Green Gathering is a charitable company which is governed by a board of Trustees who meet twice a year in person and carry out all other meetings (up to five) by Skype. Trustees are drawn from community members who were either previously company directors of the Big Green Gathering or have a long history of being engaged with environmental issues and gatherings and those who representing specific issues (such as education and youth) which bring value to the board. The Charity is staffed primarily by volunteers with some administrative work contracted out.



## Objectives and Activities

To educate the public in arts and the sustainable conservation of the environment and endangered species and in particular the arts, music, drama, poetry reading, sculpture, painting, handicrafts and all other associated arts, and to encourage the public to participate in the said arts by the presentation of concerts, performances, exhibitions and other items necessary for the better performance of the objectives hereinbefore mentioned during festival periods and at other times as occasions arise.

The charity fulfils its objectives by commissioning an annual event to promote education for environmental sustainability and any other activities that promote its objectives. During the last two financial years, the Charity developed and formalized the commissioning process with our trading subsidiary, Optimistic Trout, and agreed a two year commissioning period through 2016. Charity Trustees joined OTP members at a stall for Bristol Green Week to help promote the work of the Charity and the 2014 event. Consultation was carried out with community members at the 2014 and 2015 events and held a Members (meeting) Tea Party on the final day of the 2015 event.



In response to feedback from community members during the 2014 event, six volunteers were recruited to run a crockery hire and washing up service in 2015 called Crock n Rock, which was well received and had potential for growth and development, especially in terms of working with traders.



The 2015 event was the first year that OTP was able to secure a profit on behalf of the Charity. These funds, totaling £3000, were used to contract in administrative support, fund a Members Get Together in Bristol in May 2016, develop and support Crock n



Rock, subsidise assisted access showers, purchase a Hearing Loop and fund a programme of free performance and craft workshops for children at the 2016 event.

### ***Crock n Rock***

The idea for the Crock n Rock stall arose out of the feedback collected by the Charity's volunteers about the need to reduce the use of disposable plates, cups and cutlery at the annual event. Volunteers researched various ways this could be addressed. Vast quantities of non-recyclable material (even if produced from recycled materials itself) are generated at out-door events and the resources (water and power) used to produce disposables all add up to a significant environmental impact. The Charity is keen to explore innovative ways to improve catering practices as they tend to be one of the biggest producers of waste at outdoor events. The group of volunteers involved came up with an effective but fun way to start addressing this issue through a Rock n Roll themed crockery hire and washing up service. This creative approach helped to encourage interaction with the public, stimulate feed back, discussion and debate, as well as spontaneous dancing! Crock n Rock is an evolving project with much development still needed but huge potential for environmental and education benefit.

### ***Members Get Together Bristol May 2016***

One of the core issues for the Charity is the need to develop its volunteer base in order to help progress it's work. The Charity recognises the need to develop this area of work in a thought out manner to ensure sufficient supervision and support is available to volunteers and adequate structures and policies developed to effectively enable this. The Charity is already run primarily by volunteers and it is vital that proper management is in place before any significant expansion. Although a small volunteer base has grown up in West Wales (specifically around the Crock n Rock project), a wider base of volunteers with a range of skills is also needed. As a result, a Members Get Together was organised to start the process of bringing members together to discuss what was needed and how the various areas of work could be addressed. The outcome from the meeting was the need to hold a regular annual members skill share camp. We also found a member willing to take forward a schools project with filming at the 2016 event as part of the project development and promotion. The Charity feels it is vital to develop links with schools and communities in a geographical area around the event itself to bring in individuals and families who do not currently benefit from the work of the Charity. Although some initial administrative work had been carried out, including an attempt to bring together a number of different mailing lists, the response from the email sent out to members seemed very low with a large number of faulty email addresses and there was concern that not everyone had received the invitation.

### ***Plans for 2016-17***

The Charity will set up a more robust email database of members and use a range of social media to promote its work and keep members informed. The Charity will hold a three day member's camp in May of 2017 to develop a stronger volunteer base with



adequate support structures, endorse the commissioning of future events and help inform the longer term strategic development of the Charity. The expected profit generated by the 2016 event will be used, in part, to pay for targeted administrative work on the membership database, to commission the building of bespoke equipment for Crock n Rock, fund training for Crock n Rock volunteers and develop an interactive resource reclamation centre display for the 2017 event. We plan to change our financial year to align with our event cycle.

### **Trustees responsibilities in relation to financial statements**

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the Trust's financial activities in the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the Trustees are required to:

1. select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
2. make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
3. prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume the charity will continue in operation
4. state whether applicable standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2005 and the provisions of the governing document. They are also responsible for safe-guarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. Due to the size and level of activity of the charity, a basic receipts and payment model has been used for the year's accounts.

### **Risk Assessment and Management**

The Trustees of the charity have carried out a risk assessment according to the requirements of charities, to identify major risks that the organisation is exposed to. These include financial risks, employment risks, and risks to the charity's reputation, health and safety procedures and internal financial control risks.

Susan Pickles  
Trust Secretary

August 2016