

Spring Grove Fringe

Report of the Trustees – year ending 30th September 2020

Charity details

Name Spring Grove Fringe
Number 1150982
Address St John's Parish Hall
Grove Lane
Kingston upon Thames
KT1 2SU
Trustees Jayne Britten (Treasurer)
Helen Dawson
Nigel Duffin
Sandra Gavshon (Chair)
Daisy Jones
Suzanne Nail
Jenny Robson
Amanda Shaw (Secretary)
Tony Tresigne

Structure, Governance, Management

The group is governed and regulated by the Constitution adopted by the members on 10th October 2012 and amended on 20th February 2013. Trustees are elected at the Annual General Meeting, in accordance with the constitution.

Objectives and activities

Our objects are to promote the advancement and improvement of general education in relation to all aspects of the art of drama and the development of public appreciation of the art; to make such grants and donations for such purposes as are charitable according to the laws of England and Wales as the trustees in their absolute discretion shall think fit.

Spring Grove Fringe is a community drama group that aims to promote understanding of and participation in theatre, and to make donations to other local or national charities.

In planning the year's activities the trustees have kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Achievements

2019/2020 was a successful year for the Spring Grove Fringe until the Covid-19 lockdown meant that we had to suspend activities from March. There were only three productions in the year, because the May production had to be postponed.

Spring Grove Fringe’s got Talent, a review, in October.

Matchbox Theatre, a selection of playlets by Michael Frayn, in November.

Jack and the Beanstalk, the annual pantomime, in February.

Shows were popular and donations were made to charities as reported below. We remain an inclusive, community-based group open to all. In particular, we welcome local children and young people in the annual pantomime.

During lockdown, a series of very popular play readings for members was organised using Zoom.

Two printed backdrops were purchased – mediaeval marketplace and forest – which it was agreed would be useful in many of our productions.

A better-maintained garage was located in which to store our props and costumes. The rent is lower and the owner generously agreed to a reduced charge while we have no fund-raising activities.

Financial Review

A new Treasurer was elected at the 2019 AGM and new financial controls have been agreed and put into effect.

At the end of the financial year, the balance as in the accounts was all unrestricted funds.

Reserves are held to cover hall rental, storage charges, future production costs and unforeseen expenditure, such as repairs. We aim to keep between £1500 and £2000 in reserves, although this is likely to be depleted until we are able to put on productions again.

We have been able to support the Parish Hall by paying half rental for six months when we were unable to make use of the building, and have carefully considered our financial viability, looking forward to 2021.

Following our productions, donations of £1500 were made as follows:

£500 to Enhanceable

£500 to Moving on Together

£500 to Alzheimer’s Research UK

Approved by the trustees on 14 October 2020 and signed on their behalf by

..... Sandy Gavshon (Chair)

..... Amanda Shaw (Secretary)