



Hackspace Foundation

Annual Report

31st March 2011

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Company Information

Directors

Andrew Brockhurst
Russell Garrett
Robert Leverington
Alex Smith
Jonty Wareing
Charles Yarnold

Registered Office

2 Ockendon Mews
Ockendon Road
London N1 3JL

Company Number

06807563 (England and Wales)

Directors' Report

Objects of the Company

The stated Objects of the Hackspace Foundation are:

- To promote and support science, engineering, and art.

The main activity of the company is providing permanent community workspace facilities in the London area (the London Hackspace). We aim to provide a comfortable place where people can learn new skills, socialise, and gain access to tools they would not otherwise have access to.

Organisational Structure

The Hackspace Foundation is a Company Limited by Guarantee operating as a membership association. The company has a Board of up to eight Directors who are elected by the membership and serve for a three-year term, although this is mainly a symbolic role with most decisions made by membership consensus.

As the Foundation has grown since its formation in February 2009, it has historically not been possible to reliably determine if it is eligible for charitable status. Combined with the administrative overhead of doing so, this has so far prevented the Hackspace Foundation from becoming a registered charity.

Since the company is becoming more mature, it is becoming more clear that it is likely to be eligible for charitable status, and we anticipate looking into applying within the next year.

Facilities

At the beginning of the 2010/2011 year, the London Hackspace was based in an 800 sq ft, unheated space in Barnsbury. In July 2010 we moved to a 1300 sq ft space in Cremer Street, E2, and on January 1st 2011 the space was expanded into the adjacent unit to increase our space to 2600 sq ft.

Currently our space comprises desk space across two separate rooms, sofas, a kitchen, and a sizeable workshop with woodworking, metalworking and other fabrication facilities.

Recent equipment purchases include a laser cutter for cutting and etching wood and plastic, and large lathe/mill for metalworking. All this equipment is available for members to use for free or with a small contribution to equipment running costs.

Membership

The Hackspace Foundation is a membership association, and membership is open to everyone. Members receive 24-hour access to the space, storage space, and voting rights in return for a membership subscription.

The minimum membership subscription is £5 per month, and members are encouraged to pay what they consider their membership to be worth.

Membership subscriptions are the primary source of income for the Hackspace Foundation, and in 2010/11 our membership rapidly grew by 600% from 41 to 252 people.

Services for Non-Members

Although we encourage anyone who finds the London Hackspace useful to become a member, we don't limit our services to members. Non-members can use our facilities under the supervision of a member, and we run events (both free and paid) which are open to non-members.

There are many individual events organised by members on a regular basis, which are usually free and open to the public. Regular events include:

- Weekly Meetups - our weekly public social events.
- DIY Bio - workshops and lectures on biology.
- Young Hackspace - free events for children aged between 6 and 10.

We also allow other like-minded non-profit groups to hire out sections of our space at cost - generally much cheaper than other similar venues.

Public Benefit

The London Hackspace is not currently a registered charity (see the Organisational Structure section on page 2 for more details), which would require it to publish details of the public benefit it delivers. Nonetheless, the Directors feel it is appropriate to do so.

We believe the London Hackspace delivers charitable benefits under two of the headings allowed by the Charities Act 2006: firstly and primarily through the advancement of the arts, culture, heritage or science, and secondly through the advancement of education.

As entry to the London Hackspace is free of charge for non-members, and the minimum membership is a modest fee, we believe there are no unreasonable restrictions on access to the benefits which are therefore available to the public in accordance with the definition of the Act.

Reserves Policy

The Hackspace Foundation aims to keep three months worth of monthly running costs as a reserve. This currently amounts to £12,486.

Due to the significant membership growth of the London Hackspace during 2010/11, it was decided to spend some of the reserve on expanding the space. The majority of this was spent on lease deposits. At the end of the financial year, our balance was £7,568.

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Board for issue on the 28th of December 2011

Russell Garrett

Director

Company Number: 06807563

Income and Expenditure Account

For the 12-month accounting period 1st April 2010 to 31st March 2011. The previous year was an extended 13-month accounting period.

Income and expenditure for the 2009/10 period has been restated in accordance with the changes in depreciation policy detailed in note 2 .

	2010/11		2009/10	
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Subscriptions	30,074		7,330	
Donations	7,654		7,723	
Sales to non-members	2,929		98	
Sales to members	990			
Total Income		41,648		15,151
Expenditure				
Rent	22,540		3,700	
Utilities	2,104			
Business Rates	1,926			
Supplies	1,503		501	
Cost of running events	1,241			
Depreciation	952		77	
Repairs and maintenance	493		1,445	
Bank fees	203		4	
Shipping	178			
Insurance	108			
Equipment hire	70		81	
Sundry	66		22	
Advertising and promotion			966	
Total Expenditure		-31,382		-6,812
Operating Surplus		10,265		8,338
Other interest receivable & similar income		2		1
Surplus on Ordinary Activities		10,267		8,339

Balance Sheet

31st March 2011

	2011		2010	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets				
Tangible fixed assets		5,525		1,040
Current Assets				
Rental Deposit	7,696			
Cash at bank and in hand	7,688		8,642	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	-2,511		-1,343	
Prepaid Subscriptions	-610			
Net current assets		20,908		7,285
Total assets less current liabilities		17,787		8,339
Capital and Reserves				
Income and expenditure account		10,267		8,339

For the financial period ended 31 March 2011 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of these financial statements under the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial period and of its profit or loss for the financial period in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

Approved by the Board for issue on the 28th of December 2011

Russell Garrett

Director

Company Number: 06807563

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Accounting policies

(a) Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

(b) Compliance with accounting standards

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), which have been applied consistently throughout the period.

(c) Turnover

Turnover represents amounts receivable for services.

(d) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Fixtures & Fittings	Over 5 years at 20% per annum on a straight line basis
Plant & Machinery	Over 4 years at 25% per annum on a straight line basis

2. Change of depreciation policy

The directors have chosen to alter the depreciation policy to be more in line with the expected useful life of equipment, fixtures, and fittings, based on observations made in the last year. Fixtures and Fittings are now depreciated over five years, and plant and machinery over four years on a straight-line basis.

For the 2010/11 reporting period, these changes have resulted in the depreciation charge being reduced from £1,325 to £952, which represents a 4% increase of the operating surplus.

The depreciation expenditure for the 2009-2010 financial year has been restated according to the new depreciation policy. This has resulted in a change of £13 to the depreciation line, or less than 1% of the surplus for that year.