MILTON KEYNES PLAY ASSOCIATION

(A company Limited by guarantee)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

MILTON KEYNES PLAY ASSOCIATION
(A company Limited by guarantee)

COMPANY NUMBER: 03051975

CHARITY NUMBER: 1047318

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MILTON KEYNES PLAY ASSOCIATION
(A company Limited by guarantee)

LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

Directors in office during the year And on the date the report was approved, were as follows:	Marie Diane Jay Jonathan Robert Elvin Caroline Godfrey Sara Groocock-Wilson Paul Sayer Jared Myers Josephine Ashdown
Principal office:	2 Burners Lane Kiln Farm Milton Keynes Buckinghamshire MK11 3HB
Company Registration Number:	03051975 (England and Wales)
Charity registration number:	1047318
Bankers:	National Westminster Bank plc 80 High Street Stony Stratford Milton Keynes MK11 1AJ
Independent Examiner:	Ad Valorem Accountancy Services Ltd 2 Manor Farm Court Old Wolverton Road Old Wolverton Milton Keynes MK12 5NN

MILTON KEYNES PLAY ASSOCIATION
(A company Limited by guarantee)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

The Directors, listed on page 1, who are also Trustees of the Association, present their report and the accounts for the Association for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Structure, governance and management

Governance

The Milton Keynes Play Association is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles and Constitution.

Trustee recruitment

The Trustees are appointed by members at the AGM each year and are members of the public who have expressed a particular interest in serving as trustees of MKPA. New Trustees are introduced to the work of the MKPA by the staff and Trustees and provided with whatever assistance they need to perform their duties effectively.

Organisational structure

The Trustees/Directors, meet as a Board on a regular basis and are responsible for the management of the affairs of the MKPA. All major decisions are made by the Board, including the approval of annual accounts as well as material agreements, major capital expenditures, budgets and strategic plans and they have delegated day to day operation decisions to the senior staff. All Trustees are non-executive.

MKPA is one of the longest running charitable organisations in Milton Keynes, with over 50 years' experience of supporting child-centred play. MKPA supports parents, childminders and a range of organisations including After School Clubs, Nurseries and Schools who provide services to children and young people. MKPA also partners with Parish & Town Councils and has close liaison with other organisations such as MK Parks Trust, MK City Council, The Community Foundation, Community Action: MK and other voluntary and community groups.

Although each is independent, it cooperates with play associations in other local authority areas and shares best practice with those bodies. It also arranges, on a national basis, joint resources "swaps" to share donated materials to the mutual advantage of each participant.

Risk Management

The principal risks to which the charity is exposed relate to the safety of the children and young people with whom it is in direct contact and to funding its sustainability. Procedures, which are reviewed at least annually, are in place to manage the risks involved in dealing with children and young people. Operational risks such as safe equipment management and safety in the workplace are regularly reviewed. The Trustees review regularly the MKPA's financial situation to enable them to take appropriate action to minimise as far as possible the probability and likely impact of the financial risks.

Volunteers

The Charity has benefitted greatly from the input of volunteers. The financial value of the hours the volunteers have given to the company is not reflected in the accounts.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives

The objectives of Milton Keynes Play Association are to provide professional play services across Milton Keynes. Sharing our skills, and knowledge, and providing low-cost resources, equipment and training. With over 50 years' experience, we champion play on behalf of children, young adults, their families & carers, and the wider community for public benefit.

Public benefit

MKPA have taken the Chairty Commission's public benefit guidance into account when making any decision it is relevant to its operations. The MKPA carries out a wide range of activities in pursuance of its charitable objectives, for example providing opportunities for open access play in parks and green spaces across Milton Keynes and surrounding areas, training for those working with children, specialist play equipment and play resources from our Scrapstore and shop. The Trustees consider that all the activities it undertakes meet the test of public benefit, by meeting the needs of children and young people in Milton Keynes and surrounding areas and support those who are directly responsible for their care in the wider community.

The two core aims of MKPA are:

- Making Play Happen – we want all children in Milton Keynes and the surrounding area to have the opportunity to direct their own play in an open and accessible environment.
- Making Play Matter – we want to ensure that the statutory, private, voluntary and community sector understand the value of child-centre, free play, and that the organisations that work with the children are trained and resourced to provide high quality play opportunities.

Mission

Milton Keynes Play Association exists to provide opportunities for children to experience child-led play through the provision of professional play services.

Aims:

- We aim to advocate a child's right to play and ensure that everyone understands it importance.
- We aim to lead innovative play practice.
- We aim to provide resources to support child-led play (people, places, things).
- We aim to be a growing sustainable and well-run organisation.

Achievements and performance

MKPA operates three core services:

- Play Activities
- Sale of play materials and scrapstore
- Training Services

We also provide a play equipment hire service for local organisations and residents.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

Play Services are central to the delivery of the charitable objects of the company. We currently deliver Open Access Play sessions (free to the children) in partnership with Parish Councils in Milton Keynes.

Sale of play materials and scrapstore (which takes clean re-usable waste products from companies which has a play or crafting use) is hugely valued by our 1500+ members'. A mobile scrapstore service is provided for childcare providers and schools in and around Milton Keynes.

MKPA provides a range of First Aid training and development opportunities to support the needs of those who care for children and young people. We have extensive experience in this area, delivering around 150 courses to approximately 2,000 learners each year.

Financial Review
The charity made a surplus of £27,049 for the year to 31 March 2026 compared to a surplus of £3,046 last year.

All areas of the business had a good performance last year as the impact of the staff hard work to improve their business areas bears fruit.

As a result of the increase in the minimum wage and NI, costs have increased for all areas of activities, offsetting the increased income.

Reserves
General reserves are needed to properly plan for unforeseen significant financial expenditure.

The level of reserves is set by taking account of

1. The financial risks to the charity's activities and
2. The charity's commitments to achieve an organised closure.

The level of reserves is reviewed on an annual basis and in accordance with changes in risks and potential closure costs and the trustees consider the current level of reserves is sufficient to meet future needs.

Investment Policy
The Trustees consider that the funds identified to meet the reserves policy should be held on deposit accounts to maintain access and generate income. Funds available above this level are considered by the Trustees for investment in income generating assets.

Political and charitable donations
No charitable or political donations were made in this financial year.

Plans for future periods

The charity has developed the following strategic aims to move the charity forward and measure its success.

- To continue to offer activities that support children's learning through play
- To continue to embed the sustainable financial operating model
- To continue to increase funds generated through donations, grants and other activities
- To promote and increase awareness of all our services and achievements in the community whilst increasing engagement with the charity
- To maintain the sustainable structure that helps grow our colleagues
- To continue to build on our improved use of technology and facilities
- To continue to operate compliant and efficient governance

Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of Milton Keynes Play Association for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees/Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law, the Trustees/Directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law, the Trustees/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 charity and the income and expenditure of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless sit is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees/Directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity 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 charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed by order of the Trustees

.....
Caroline Godfrey (Director/Trustee)

Date: .....06/08/2026.....

MILTON KEYNES PLAY ASSOCIATION
(A company Limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2026 which are set out on pages 7 to 14

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

..... Date: 6/8/2026

Thomas Foot FCA
Ad Valorem Accountancy Services Ltd
2 Manor Farm Court
Old Wolverton Road
Old Wolverton
Milton Keynes
MK12 5NN

MILTON KEYNES PLAY ASSOCIATION
(A company Limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2026 £	Total funds 2025 £
Income and Endowments					
Donations and legacies	9	9,203	-	9.203	7,053
Grants	10	-	-	-	-
Other income					
Membership fees		32,180	-	32,180	27,765
Sundry			-		-
Other trading activities					
Rent of surplus accommodation		26,697		26,697	19,497
Income from charitable activities					
Play activities		153,156	1,100	154,256	130,632
Sales of play materials and Scrapstore		136,636	1,996	138,632	128,485
Training activities		83,591	-	83,591	69,930
Other Income		1,015	-	1,015	1,601
Total income and endowments		442,478	3,096	445,574	384,964
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities					
Cost of play activities	11	194,984		194,984	167,719
Cost of play materials and Scrapstore	12	135,978	1,996	137,974	132,217
Training	13	79,293		79,293	70,635
Administration	14	6,274		6,274	11,347
Total expenditure		416,529	1,996	418,525	381,918
Net income/(deficit) before transfer		25,949	1,100	27,049	3,046
Asset Purchase		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		25,949	1,100	27,049	3,046
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		73,529	-	73,529	70,483
Total funds carried forward		99,478	1,100	100,578	73,529

The statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

MILTON KEYNES PLAY ASSOCIATION

(A company Limited by guarantee)

The notes on pages 9 to 14 form part of these accounts

Registered Number: 03051975

BALANCE SHEET

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

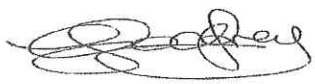
	Notes	2026		2025	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Assets	4		17,742		20,346
Current assets					
Goods for resale		-		-	
Debtors & prepayments	5	95,025		67,185	
Cash in hand and at bank	6	118,998		103,251	
			214,022		170,436
Liabilities					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year					
Creditors & Accruals	7	131,186		117,253	
					117,253
Net Current Assets			82,836		53,183
Total Assets less Current Liabilities			100,578		73,529
General funds	16	99,478		73,529	
Restricted funds	17	1,100		-	
Total unrestricted funds			100,578		73,529
Total charity funds			100,578		73,529

For the year ended 31 March 2026 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Trustees' responsibilities:
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act, with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements were approved by the members of the committee on the .....21 May 2026..... and are signed on their behalf by:



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Caroline Godfrey (Director/Trustee)

The notes on pages 9 to 14 form part of these accounts.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

1. Statement of accounting policies

a. These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland", the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

b. The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

c. **Format**

The company has taken advantage of the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 and presented an income and expenditure account in the form of a statement of financial activities on the grounds that it enables the financial statements to show a true and fair view of the result for the year.

d. **Disclosure exemptions**

The entity satisfied the criteria of being a qualifying entity as defined in FRS 102. As such, advantage has been taken of the following disclosure exemptions available under paragraph 1.12 of FRS 102:

a) No cash flow statement has been presented for the charity.
b) Disclosures in respect of financial instruments have not been presented.
c) No disclosure has been given for the aggregate remuneration of key management personnel.

e. **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are those which are available to be used by the Trustees at their discretion in furtherance of the charity's objects. Unrestricted funds also include any funds designated by the Trustees for a specific future purpose. Restricted funds are those which must be used only in accordance with the specific instructions imposed by the donors. Direct costs are charged as appropriate, but overheads are recovered from restricted funds only insofar as the terms of the funding permits.

f. **Income**

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- Legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- Income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- Income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

g. **Expenditure**

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. When costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

h. **Goods for resale**

Stocks of goods for resale are value on the basis of cost, less any provision for diminution in value. Stocks of donated items are not valued on the balance sheet as this depends solely on members' discretion, when making a donation.

i. **Fixed assets**

All fixed assets are initially recorded at cost.

j. **Depreciation**

All assets will be depreciated at the following rates, designed to write off their cost less any residual value over their expected useful lives:

Furniture and equipment	25.00% straight line
IT equipment	33.33% straight line
Motor vehicles	33.33% straight line
Intangible assets	33.33% straight line

2. Analysis of staff costs, Trustee remuneration and cost of key management personnel

	2026	2025
Staff costs	£	£
Salaries	263,719	227,560
Employer's national insurance contributions	9,329	11,589
Employer's pension contributions	2,667	2,820
	275,715	241,969

Employee numbers

The average number of full- time staff employed by the Association 6 (2025: 6)
In addition, up to 98 seasonal staff are employed on a temporary basis during school holidays (2025 : 85).
There are no employees with emoluments above £60,000.
The key management personnel of the charity comprise the General Manager, Play Coordinator, Training Manager and scrapstore Manager. Their total salaries were £115,825 (2025 : £106,760)

3. Trustees' expenses

The Trustees receive no remuneration in respect of the services they perform for the Association but are reimbursed in respect of the travel and subsistence expenses they incur in attending meetings, functions etc.
No remuneration or benefits in kind were paid to any trustee during the year (2025: £Nil).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

4. Tangible and Intangible fixed assets

	Motor Vehicles	IT Equipment	Furniture & Equipment	Total
Cost	£	£	£	£
As at 1 April 2025	17,425	17,181	80,129	114,735
Additions/(Disposals)		1,335	1,194	2,529
As at 31 March 2026	17,425	18,516	81,323	117,264
Depreciation				
As at 1 April 2025	8,402	17,001	68,986	94,389
Charge for the year	2,305	484	2,344	5,133
As at 31 March 2026	10,707	17,484	71,330	99,522
Net Book Values				
As at 31 March 2026	6,718	1,031	9,993	17,742
As at 31 March 2025	9,023	180	11,143	20,346

5. Debtors (amounts falling due within 1 year)

	2026	2025
	£	£
Trade debtors	91,623	59,591
Prepayments & accrued income	3,402	7,594
	95,025	67,185

6. Cash at bank and in hand

Petty cash	100	1,617
Current accounts	30,393	45,082
Investment account	0	0
35 Day Fixed Deposit Account	52,280	56,551
95 Day Fixed Deposit Account	35,286	0
Till	939	0
	118,998	103,251

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

7. Creditors (amounts falling due within 1 year)

	2026	2025
	£	£
Trade creditors	7,420	15,864
Social Security & other taxes	3,257	650
Other creditors	2,647	114
Accruals & income received in advance	117,862	100,625
	131,186	117,253

8. Income from charitable activities – Play activities

Play Service income is received largely from Parish and Town Councils, who contribute towards the delivery of the Open Access Play Sessions in the school holidays.

9. Income from generated funds – donations

	2026	2025
	£	£
Donations	9,203	7,053
	9,203	7,053

10. Grants

	2026	2025
	£	£
Groundwork	1,996	-
	1,996	12,614

11. Expenditure – Play Activities

	Unrestricted	2026 restricted	Total	2025 Total
	£	£	£	£
Staff & administration costs	138,656	-	138,656	102,876
Play Projects	-	-	-	-
Open Access Sessions	11,656	-	11,656	24,529
Overheads allocation	44,672	-	44,672	40,314
	194,984	-	194,984	167,719

See above note regarding the allocation of overheads.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

12. Expenditure – Scrapstore

	Unrestricted	2026 restricted	Total	2025 Total
	£	£	£	£
Staff & administration costs	60,912	1,996	62,908	57,070
Shop Stock	7,624		7,624	9,529
Overheads allocation	67,442	-	67,442	65,618
	137,974	1,996	137,974	132,217

See above note regarding the allocation of overheads.

13. Expenditure – Training

	Unrestricted	2026 restricted	Total	2025 Total
	£	£	£	£
Staff & administration	11,506	-	11,506	10,742
Tutors & materials	38,294	-	38,294	33,055
Overheads allocation	29,493	-	29,493	26,838
	79,293	-	79,293	70,635

Overheads are allocated to restricted activities to the extent that the funding terms permit.
Unrecovered overheads are treated as expenditure on unrestricted activities.
See above note regarding the allocation of overheads.

14. Expenditure – Administration

	Unrestricted	2026 restricted	Total	2025 Total
	£	£	£	£
Staff & administration costs	1,141	-	1,141	6,836
Depreciation	5,133	-	5,133	4,511
	6,274	-	6,274	11,347

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

15. Income funds

	General	Restricted	Total Funds 2026	Total Funds 2025
	£	£	£	£
As at 1 April 2025	73,529	-	73,529	70,483
Surplus for the year	25,949	-	25,949	3,046
Grant received	-	1,100	1,100	-
As at 31 March 2026	99,478	1,100	100,578	73,529

16. Movements in Funds

	Bfwd	Income/ Transfer	Expenditure/ Transfer	Cfwd
	£	£	£	£
General Unrestricted Funds	73,529	442,478	(416,529)	99,478
Restricted funds	-	3,096	(1,996)	1,100
Total	73,529	445,574	(418,525)	100,578
Restricted Funds				
Donation from Groundwork	-	-	-	1,996
Deliver Mobile Scrapstore	-	-	-	(1,996)
Grant for play event				1,100
Total	-	-	-	1,100

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Tangible Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	Total
	£	£	£
Unrestricted Income Funds			
General Unrestricted Funds	17,742	81,736	99,478
Restricted Funds	-	1,100	1,100
	17,742	82,836	100,578

18. Taxation

The Association by virtue of its charitable status is exempt from taxation on its ordinary activities.

19. Status

The Association is a company limited by guarantee (no. 03051975) not having a share capital (the guarantee being restricted to £1 per member) and a registered charity (no. 1047318).