Féile an Phobail Limited
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
for the year ended 31 March 2019


The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Trustees' Report contains the information required to be provided in the Trustees' Annual Report under the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) guidelines. The trustees of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's constitution are known as members of the board of trustees.

In this report the trustees of Féile an Phobail Limited present a summary of its purpose, governance, activities, achievements and finances for the financial year 31 March 2019.

The charity is a registered charity and hence the report and results are presented in a form which complies with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP FRS 102 effective January 2015), the organisation has implemented its recommendations where relevant in these financial statements.

Mission, Objectives and Strategy

Mission Statement
Féile an Phobail Limited was established in 1986 as a direct response to the conflict in the North of Ireland.

Féile an Phobail aim to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of West Belfast and its environs without distinction of age, sex, race, political, religious or other opinion, by associating the statutory authorities, voluntary organisations and inhabitants in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure-time occupation, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants.

Objectives
To enable Féile an Phobail seek to achieve its mission the Trustee's have looked to celebrate the positive side of the community, and has strived to meet the following objectives:
- To demonstrate at national and international levels the experiences, culture, skills and potential of West Belfast and its people;
- To further develop social inclusion and cultural diversity by providing opportunities for the expression of Irish Culture in all its forms;
- To promote inter-change with other cultures and communities by encouraging both traditional and modern forms of artistic expression;
- To provide a diverse range of opportunities for community participation and the expression of self-esteem and identity through arts, languages, sports, environment, education and discussion;
- To assist in the economic regeneration of Belfast through provision of cultural activities;
- To provide a comprehensive and flexible annual programme of activities;
- To establish an effective collaborative working partnership with government and key agencies responsible for the arts, culture, tourism and social development;
- Promote the work and skills of local artists by giving them the opportunity to showcase their talent along with national and international artists.

Strategy
Féile an Phobail carry out their objectives through an annual core programme of festivals held at various locations over the course of the year, including the flagship festival August Féile and Féile an Earraigh. In addition to the festivals Féile an Phobail also provide a number of supply programmes such as the Youth Arts Programme.

August Féile is our 'Flagship festival' and is Ireland's Largest Community Festival, annually attracting upwards of 70,000 participants. 10 days of 300+ events: exhibitions, dramas, literary events, a children's programme, a disability development programme, street theatre, multicultural events, cross community events, international / national musical events, concerts, comedy, and a whole range of community arts and drama, 50% activities are free.

Féile an Phobail has developed its Youth Arts Programme for the provision of arts and cultural activities for young people in the community and from other communities across Belfast, delivering a wealth of events for children and young people, particularly between the ages of 8 16 and 16 25 years, on a year round basis.
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Oscailt Disability Arts Programme is a programme, held throughout the year, to support and encourage the active participation of people with a disability in all Féile events and support them in organising their own events, to showcase the work of artists with a disability and encourage integration/inclusion of artists, participants and audiences.

Féile an Earragh presents a wide variety of arts and cultural events over a seven day period, such as international music acts, Irish traditional music sessions and dancing, master-classes, school workshops, concerts, tours and walks, debates and discussions, literary events, youth and sporting events and family based activities.

Féile an Phobail measures its success in the reporting period by evaluating the number of individuals attending the relevant events and the general success of the events held, in line with the objectives of the charity.

Structure, Governance and Management

Structure
The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, which was incorporated on 2 October 1995. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

The organisation is governed by the Board of Directors and Management Committee, elected as part of the Annual General Meeting. The Trustee's are responsible for the general management and control of the charity. The Trustee's give their time freely and receive no remuneration or other financial benefits. The Board of Directors and Management Committee meet on a regular basis in order to review a range of business matters including governance, organisation objectives, strategic direction, best practice, funding and a range of other ongoing relevant issues.

Composition of the Board and Board Appointment Process
Féile an Phobail's trustees are recruited annually at the company's Annual General Meeting. Following selection of the trustees, a board of company directors is elected with the following office bearing positions:
- Chairperson
- Vice Chairperson
- Treasurer

Management
Mr Kevin Gamble has been delegated to overlook the daily management of Féile an Phobail Limited. The Trustee's are responsible for setting the remuneration package for key management personnel and this is based on level of funding available, current annual remuneration and any other information the trustee's have available at the time of the review.
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Review of Activities, Achievements and Performance
The year ending 31st March 2019 has seen Féile an Phobail continue with its annual core programme of activities (over 300 events delivered) at various locations and venues throughout Belfast over the course of the year, including:

August Féile 2018 - August Féile is the flagship festival of the organisation. Running successfully now for 30 years, the August Féile is Ireland's biggest community arts festival and summer school, delivering upwards of 250 events across 30+ venues and welcoming local, national and international artists and audiences of approximately 80,000 to Belfast each year. This year's August Féile was undoubtedly the biggest and best Féile that has been delivered, albeit at a financial loss due to lower than anticipated ticket sales for one of the main acts. Over 70 talks and debates were delivered which attracted huge positive PR and audiences from right across the City and beyond. The Festival was also launched by An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar, which proved a huge success for Féile. Attendances were up from 2017, particularly across the Community events and the Talks and Debates programme. The new Event space in the Falls Park also facilitated additional audience capacity across all of the headline music events.

Féile an Earraigh 2019 - A week long programme of Irish traditional arts and cultural activities. Approximately 45,000 people participated in Féile an Earraigh 2019. An active effort has been made to incorporate more traditional Irish music events into the Féile an Earraigh, effectively having a mini-fleadh cheoil. With less 'headline' events and more focus on 'sessions' and workshops and smaller scale concerts, this year's event was about re-establishing an appetite for Irish Traditional music across the City.

Youth Arts Programme - The Féile youth arts programme is a year-round weekly programme of engagement and arts programmes working within the local community in areas of high social and economic deprivation and need to increase participation in arts and cultural activities amongst some of the most at need young people.

Community Engagement Programme - The Féile Community Engagement Programme is an annual weekly programme of engagement, outreach, networking and capacity building with under-represented / non-traditional groups, including Unionist and loyalist communities, ethnic minority communities, and areas suffering from high levels of need and low levels of community engagement, particularly in arts and cultural activity.

Draíocht Halloween Festival - Draíocht Halloween festival continues to grow and go from strength to strength. This year's events included a revamped and bigger Haunted House experience in the Falls Park, facilitating upwards of 4000 families in the lead up to Halloween. The showcase event each year is the Halloween Lantern Parade and Fireworks display, again delivered in the Falls Park. This year's audience was up from last year, with approximately 10,000 participating. The carnival element of the lantern parade was also enhanced this year, with additional animation and Halloween characters added.

How Féile is achieving its objectives and where more progress is required
To enable Féile an Phobail to achieve its mission the Trustee's have looked to celebrate the positive side of the community, and have strived to meet the following objectives through the organisations year round programme of events and key Festivals:
- To demonstrate at national and international levels the experiences, culture, skills and potential of West Belfast and its people;
- To further develop social inclusion and cultural diversity by providing opportunities for the expression of Irish Culture in all its forms;
- To promote inter-change with other cultures and communities by encouraging both traditional and modern forms of artistic expression;
- To provide a diverse range of opportunities for community participation and the expression of self-esteem and identity through arts, languages, sports, environment, education and discussion;
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August Féile is our 'Flagship festival' and is Ireland’s Largest Community Festival annually attracting upwards of 70,000 participants. 10 days of 300+ events: exhibitions, dramas, literary events, a children's programme, a disability development programme, street theatre, multicultural events, cross community events, International / national musical events, concerts, comedy, and whole range of community arts and drama, 90% activities are free.

Féile an Phobail has developed its Youth Arts Programme for the provision of arts and cultural activities for young people in the community and from other communities across Belfast, delivering a wealth of events for children and
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young people, particularly between the ages of 8 - 16 and 16 - 25 years, on a year-round basis.

Oscott Disability Arts Programme, now incorporated into our Community Engagement and Youth Arts Programming output, is a programme, held throughout the year, to support and encourage the active participation of people with a disability in all Féile events and support them in organising their own events, to showcase the work of artists with a disability and encourage integration/inclusion of artists, participants and audiences.

Féile an Earragh presents a wide variety of arts and cultural events over a seven day period, such as international music acts, Irish traditional music sessions and dancing, master-classes, school workshops, concerts, tours and walks, debates and discussions, literary events, youth and sporting events and family based activities.

Féile an Phobail measures its success in the reporting period by evaluating the number of individuals attending the relevant events and the general success of the events held, in line with the objectives of the charity.

Progress is required in terms of attracting additional investment across all of the organisation’s key events, with particular attention to be drawn to both Féile an Earragh and the Dralocht festival, which have been identified as having opportunities to further develop. It has also been highlighted that additional staff resources are required to maintain the high quality of events, activities and day to day management and operation of the organisation if it is to continue to develop. To that end, effort will be dedicated to attract additional funding for a ‘Festival Development’ type post, as well as a focus in generating additional sponsorship/income from the private sector.

Financial Review
The results for the financial year are set out on page 14 and additional notes are provided showing income and expenditure in greater detail.

Income
The principal source of funding during the financial year was that of grant funding which accounts for £507,717 of £1,238,012 income. Féile an Phobail is indebted to the continued support of these funding bodies and all it’s sponsors to carry out its objectives and activities. The major funders in the 2018/19 financial year included Arts Council NI (£116,690), Northern Irish Tourist Board (£54,030) and Belfast City Council (£184,490). Without this funding Féile an Phobail would not be able to continue to provide the annual core programme of activities and other related programmes.

Expenditure
During the financial year £1,329,182 (2018: £1,000,712) was spent on the carrying out it’s activities, including the holding of events, reflecting an increase of £328,470 on 2018. This increase in expenditure was in line with the trustees plan to make the August Féile the most successful to date.

Financial Results
At the end of the year the company has assets of £238,827 (2018 - £168,972) and liabilities of £359,488 (2018 - £198,363). The net liabilities of the company have increased by £91,170.

Reserves Position and Policy
At 31 March 2019 the company had net liabilities of £120,881. This was made up of restricted funds totalling £21,452. The charity also had a deficiency of unrestricted reserves totalling £142,113, due to previous financial deficits. Included within the unrestricted reserves is £7,999 which can only be realised through the disposal of tangible fixed assets. Therefore, the total deficit of unrestricted reserves, excluding reserves which could only be realised through the disposal of tangible fixed assets at 31 March 2019 was £150,112. The movements in restricted and unrestricted funds for the year are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Going forward the trustees plan to implement a policy of building reserves and will review the reserves policy accordingly.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties
The major risks to which the entity is exposed, as identified by the directors and management committee, has been reviewed and systems have been established to management those risks.

The principle risk and uncertainty facing Féile an Phobail would be the reduction of grants from major funders. The trustees and management continue to seek additional funding to enhance the charities current activities and mitigate any reduction in monies from current funders.
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Plans for future periods
Féile an Phobail plan to continue to offer its annual core programme of activities at various locations and venues throughout Belfast in future financial periods. It is noted Féile 2019 was the biggest to date and they will continue to provide high quality events to the local area and achieve its charitable aims and objectives. The trustee’s noted the success of Féile 2018 which was 30th anniversary from the first ever Féile.

Trustees
The trustees who served throughout the year, except as noted, were as follows:

Samuel Baker
Padraig O’Muirigh
Henry Connolly

The secretary who served during the year are was:

Kevin Gamble

Health and Safety
Féile an Phoball ensures the well-being of its employees and event attendee's through the strict adherence to health and safety standards. Systems are in place to ensure that employees are aware of and implement the charity's health and safety requirements. Employees are required to work in a safe manner as mandated by law and best practice.

The major risks to which the entity is exposed, as identified by the directors and management committee, has been reviewed and systems have been established to management those risks.

The principle risk and uncertainty facing Féile an Phoball would be the reduction of grants from major funders. The trustees and management continue to seek additional funding, both public and private to enhance the charities current activities and mitigate any reduction in monies from current funders.

Féile an Phoball ensures the well-being of its employees and event attendee's through the strict adherence to health and safety standards. Professional event safety and risk organisations and personnel are employed at all major events. Systems are in place to ensure that employees are aware of and implement the charity's health and safety requirements. Employees are required to work in a safe manner as mandated by law and best practice.

Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards
The charity engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. Féile an Phoball Limited subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Companies Act 2006  
- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)  
- Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008

Transactions involving Trustees
None of the trustees had any interests in any contracts entered into by the charity during the year.

Going Concern
The charity had previously overspent in regards to their unrestricted funds while carrying out its charitable activities. As at 31 March 2019 the charity had an unrestricted funds deficit of £142,113. The Trustee's note due to this deficit in unrestricted funds and other circumstances set out in Note 3 there is a material uncertainty regarding the charities ability to continue as a Going Concern. The trustee's have been implementing plans to ensure it can overcome these uncertainties and further information is provided in Note 3 of the financial statements.

Use of Volunteers
Féile an Phobail is indebted to volunteers throughout the year who freely give their time to help the charity put on these events to the highest standard. Without the use of these volunteers throughout these events the charity would not be able to provide the level of activities at the required standard to promote the positive side of the community.

Public benefit statement
In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance "Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)".
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Details of trustee training
There were quarterly training sessions for trustees of the Board in relation to their responsibilities and planning for the organisation. Trustees also undertook training within their own organisations throughout the year.

Auditors
The auditors, Quarter, have indicated their willingness to continue in office in accordance with the provisions of Section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 20/12/19 and signed on its behalf by:

[Signature]
Henry Connolly
Director