

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD ON 17th June 2025

6.00pm

1. Apologies for Absence

Zara Coulson

2. Present

Nick Low (Chair), Anna Winch, Gari Le Piquet, Clare Langley, Claire Porter

3. Election of Co-Opted Board Members

Non to elect

4. Minutes of the previous meeting

The Minutes of the AGM held on 18th June 2024 had been previously circulated and were agreed; proposed by NL, seconded by GLP and signed by the Chair.

5. Matters Arising from that meeting

There were no matters arising

6. Presentation of Annual Report – Chair's Statement

I am pleased to be able to present to you our financial accounts for the year ending 31st August 2024.:

Welcome to the Annual report for YMCA Taunton

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity YMCA Taunton for the year ended 31st August 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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) (effective 1st January 2022). The legal name of the charity is: YMCA Taunton. YMCA Taunton, originally founded in 1855, is now constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. This status was established in 2013 and registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales (CCEW) with charity number 1152585. The trustees of the charity are all individuals.

Our purpose - What We Do

YMCA Taunton aims to encourage and nurture the physical, spiritual and intellectual development of young people within the Taunton Deane catchment area. We are a Christian organisation but welcome all religious faiths and beliefs. The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, in managing the activities of the charity. As a voluntary Christian organisation YMCA Taunton seeks to transform

communities within the borough of Taunton Deane, so that children and young people, can truly belong, contribute and thrive. As a small charity, we feel we are more in touch with our local community and able to react quickly when situations and problems arise. As a member of a National Federation however, we also benefit from the extensive lobbying work carried out by the National Policy and Research Centre and through access to data that this centre is able to provide.

To achieve our objectives, we focus on providing opportunity and challenge to young people within a safe and supportive environment, through four key areas of work:

- Family work - We deliver a range of family services, including a preschool and holiday clubs.
- Support and advice - We support young people during difficult times through a variety of initiatives.
- Training and education - We seek to support young people through education and skills-based training; and
- Promote health and well-being across a range of programmes and individual tailored work.

Over the course this year, YMCA Taunton has facilitates over 5400 interactions with young people through, for example, the provision of 384 Sporting sessions and 1235 Safe Holiday spaces. The charity has supported 50 young carers and provided 856 hot meals to children in the local area. Throughout this year we have in excess of 1250 attendances at our youth club and educated 50 preschoolers. In addition, we have provided space for other partners to provide for alternative education provisions (1131 hours) and to support for adults with learning disabilities (117 hours).

Fundraising activities during the year.

To deliver our core objectives, to support and nurture the development of young people, YMCA Taunton raises funds through grants, income generated through a range of different Sports and Fitness Classes and through the hire of a range of rooms and activity spaces. We facilitated 1475 adult sports sessions, (including squash, football and badminton). Our

special fitness classes, for example, focused on older adults (over 50) includes Aerobics, Short Tennis and Table Tennis and makes up 14% of all adult sessions held. Overall business income (including grants and donations) for the year ending 31st August 2023 of £549,418. This was an increase on last year (2022) of £35030 or 6.8%. Operating costs have been kept to a manageable level and as a result the association's income generating activities produced a net operating surplus carried forward to reserves of £1669.

Along with our other fund-raising activities, Grants and Donations are also an important source of income. In addition to our 6 corporate partners (ASDA, Marks and Spencer, Lidl, Morrisons, Sainsburys and Co-op) we would also like to acknowledge and thank our sponsors for their financial assistance in funding a variety of different initiatives:

- Avon and Somerset Police
- Somerset Community Foundation
- Somerset Young Carers
- Social Investment Business
- National Grid
- South West Trust Fund
- YMCA England and Wales
- Taunton Round Table

In February this year we were able to announce that the charity had been awarded with a grant of over £2.1million from the Youth Investment Fund provided by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport. This funding will enable us to renovate our facility and provide an additional 230m² of space. Once complete, YMCA Taunton will be able to extend its youth service offer to 275 young people per week across Taunton and the wider Somerset area.

Financial Management

All financial matters and policies are regularly reviewed by managers and the board of trustees and we continue to look for opportunities to increase our income and manage cash flow. The trustees consider the financial performance by the charity during the year to have been Satisfactory. The association has clear and robust financial policies in relation to

expenditure and the security of the associations assets. All financial matters and policies are regularly reviewed by the board of trustees. This financial report was approved by the board of trustees on 17th June 2024.

Reserves policy

YMCA Taunton's Reserves Policy sets out to maintain sufficient levels of reserves to enable normal operating activities to continue over a period of up to 12 months should a shortfall in income occur, and to take account of potential risks and contingencies that may arise from time to time. Excluded from the Reserves Policy is income associated with Endowment and Restricted Funds. In order to make a judgement on the level of reserves required, the trustees have considered the risks in respect of expenditure, unrestricted income, where appropriate restricted income and where funds can only be realised by the disposal of a fixed asset. Also taken into consideration are any external identified potential major risks to income and expenditure. Our reserves policy is reviewed each year and reserves are regularly monitored by trustees. The Board are committed to building reserves up which currently stand as:

- Restricted Revenue Funds: **£97,435**
- Endowment Revenue Funds: **£105**
- Designated Funds: **£93,035**
- Funds available for the general purposes of the charity excluding fixed assets:
Unrestricted Revenue Funds: **£203,644**

Governance and Trustees responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. These records are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and enable them to ensure that their financial statements comply with regulations made under the Charities Act 2011. 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.

The Board of Trustees is made up of individuals who live locally and have expressed a desire to further the work of the YMCA, being in sympathy with its aims and objectives. Trustees meet regularly throughout the year to review the progress of the association in meeting its charitable goals. The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's objectives and in planning future activities for the year. The association will continue in their efforts to increase income and manage cash flow, whilst maximising the impact of activities on the young people in the Taunton Deane area and support residents of all ages within the local community.

Finally, I would like to recognise and thank our team, our employees, our volunteers and trustees. As a charity we rely on your hard work and the support you give us throughout the year. We have a fantastic facility, but it is your efforts that make the building a hub of the community. I am confident with your help; the charity can continue to grow over the coming years bringing meaningful change to the children and young people in our catchment area. Thank you for your efforts.

Thank you for your efforts.

Dr Nick Low

7. Presentation of Accounts

The accounts were presented and accepted

7. Questions

There were no questions

9. Appoint independent accountants

The Board agreed to continue with Polden Accountants

Meeting closed 9.00pm