CHISWICK HOUSE & GARDENS TRUST

Report to the Nineveh Charitable Trust

Tell us about yourselves (Charity Name, Donation Amount and Date of Donation)

Chiswick House and Gardens Trust (charity number 1109239) was awarded £5,000 on 28 October 2019 to support the salary of our Kitchen Gardener.

Tell us about the Funds

Has the project we helped to fund been completed? If so, how is it maintained?

The funded project has been completed, in the sense that with this grant we were able to raise enough money, combined with the sales of our produce that the Kitchen Gardener is responsible for, to pay for the gardener's salary for the year.

The Kitchen Gardener's salary is paid through fundraised income from the produce cart, trusts and foundations, and remaining cost gaps are funded by core funds from the charity's operating budget.

If not completed yet, why not? Are plans in place to finalise the project?

N/A – the Kitchen Gardener is essential to the charity's operation, and so there is a business incentive to maintain this post for income generation, as well as meet our charitable objectives around supporting our community participation programme, the environment and biodiversity.

Did the funds provided by us prove adequate, or was there an over- or under-spend?

The funds were adequate and gratefully received. There was no over- or under-spend.

How were any surplus funds used, or was further funding made available?

There were no surplus funds.

Tell us about the project

Has the project been successful and well received by the beneficiaries?

The project enabled our Kitchen Gardener to support the 40 Kitchen Garden volunteers in sowing, cultivating and harvesting the vegetables, fruit and flowers that were sold weekly from our produce cart. This post supported 40 Kitchen Garden volunteers who completed 4409 volunteer hours, which is equivalent to 2.8 full time members of staff, and worth circa £56,000 in labour.

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Are you satisfied with the outcome, or, with hindsight, would some modifications have been appropriate?

We are satisfied with the outcome. The success of the Kitchen Garden, in turn, has already attracted more volunteers and is enabling us to increase our output and efficiency for future years. We were able to continue meeting the needs of our local community through offering weekly sessions with a special educational needs school and outdoor nursery, school workshops, biweekly social and therapeutic volunteer sessions and the opening of the garden to the public for engagement and education.

Was funding for this project made available from any other sources?

Funding for the Kitchen Gardener came from: £10,000 in produce sales; £5,000 from the Nineveh Charitable Trust; and £5,000 from our charity's core costs.

Feedback about us

How did you find our own process of selection and payment?

Unfortunately, we aren't able to answer this because a turnover in fundraising and finance team staff has meant that this report is being completed by people who did not have interaction with the Nineveh Charitable Trust.

Have you considered providing us with an update on the activities for which our Trust provided the funding?

Same as above.

Would you welcome a visit by our Trustees?

Absolutely. We would be delighted for the Trustees to visit and see how much our Kitchen Garden has thrived, thanks to the investment of the Nineveh Charitable Trust. We would love to introduce you to our Kitchen Gardener, Stephen Histed, and for you to see our volunteers in action.

Have you any other comments?

We extend our grateful thanks to the Trustees for the Trust's support of our Kitchen Gardener, who is the beating heart of our operation, and without which we wouldn't be able to serve our local community.