



Transition Town Ilford

REPORTS

AGM 2024

Summary

of Transition Ilford accounts

2023-2024

This briefing covers the Ilford Transition Town's financial position for the period between 01/04/2023 and 31/03/2024

The accounts are available for inspection, prepared by our treasurer and they represent the true position of the finances for Ilford Transition Town and all the projects involved. These will be available at the AGM on 10/1/25 and copies can be forwarded to members, prior to this.

As of 01/04/2023, at the beginning of the 2023/2024 financial year the balance amount in our bank account was £6826.32

As of 31/03/2024, at the end of the 2023/2024 financial year, the balance amount in our bank account was £10,359.23

The total amount of income, ie the grants and donations we received for this period was £9,146.50 and the amount spent was 5,613.59.

The largest 2 amounts received were £4,840 for Forest Garden Explore Project, and £2,340 for the Colours of Redbridge Project.

As you know we do not charge for the repairs carried out by the Repair Café but people sometimes make donations and we had £290 donation for the Repair Café.

The grant for the Energy Café was received before this financial year but we continued to run the Energy Cafes in 23/24 financial year and we still have some money left to continue in 2024/2025 financial year.

Please also note that whenever we receive some grant, we transfer 10% as admin contribution to the Central Transition Town budget as we have no income as Ilford Transition Town but we have expenses such as insurance, website and organising AGM like today.

We have prepared the accounts, and this briefing with due care, and they represent a true and fair view of the Ilford Transition Town and financial positions of different projects.

Olcay Aniker and Sadeq Chowdhury (Treasurer)

Repair Café



We have continued to run our wonderful Repair Café on alternate weeks since the last AGM - that's probably 40 cafes, about 24 a year. It's such a friendly and buzzing meeting space with conversations, learning, banter....

Introducing the team roles: receptionists, triage, event host, electrics team, sewing team, data entry and our laptop volunteer, that's 13 or 14 of us each time!

Our electrical team on average tackles about 15 items each time and very many are mended and saved from landfill. With the ones that can't be mended sometimes a part is bought and its mended next time. Always the customer learns something and is often happy to try on their own.

Our sewing team has been mending moth holes, broken zips, torn hems and lovingly repaired rucksacks, bags, coats, jewellery and all sorts.

We have also been helping people with laptop and desktop problems and how to upgrade laptops.

With thanks to Vision and Lab Central for the venue and lots of support.

'It's lovely to see people's smiles, and often amazement at what can be done. We're inspiring people who will go home and tell others, so hopefully our beneficial effect on the environment goes beyond what we can do in the cafe.' A volunteer

Forest garden

The Forest Garden is a well-used space by park users - as a place to walk through, have picnics, play, hold meetings, sit for some quiet.

This year has seen lots of exciting activity alongside our regular commitment to planting and maintenance of our garden. In the spring we took part in the RSPB Birdwatch and were thrilled to see a Great spotted woodpecker in our area.

Many creative activities took place for children and adults through the Colours of Redbridge funding. Three artists provided activities for some school groups as well as open events in the holidays. The adult watercolour session was much appreciated

We celebrated a lovely summer which saw some of our planting bearing fruit for the first time, raspberries, wineberries, sea buckthorn, sorrel, and many herbs. At the end of Summer, we held the Forest Garden festival.

We also received funding from Transition Together to enable a Forest school Leader to run weekly sessions in our garden for Seven Kings Primary School and a Home Education Group. It has been a joy to see so many children enjoying nature. This has been successful, and we are hoping that the forest school leader will be able to use the FG to run paid sessions in the future.



Energy Cafe



The Energy Cafe has held a session every other Saturday all through the year, 24 sessions in 2024. We've had over 150 conversations with local residents, offering ideas to save energy and cut costs, advice on bills and support for energy costs, and information about available grants for energy-saving improvements. Our sessions are held at Redbridge Central Library (next to the Repair Cafe), with one at Mercato in September. We participated in the Town Hall Cost of Living Event and the Volunteer Fair, and have spoken at the Faith Forum and Redbridge Climate Forum. Our Volunteer team has enabled this successful year – thirteen individuals volunteering at different times during the year, working alongside Sobia, our trained adviser. Sobia has provided training for our volunteers. Our younger volunteers have contributed to our planning meetings. Gabrielle, a volunteer, wrote an [online article](#) about us. Our flyers promoting the Energy Cafe have been given to local organisations. Our [website](#) has links to online resources, so we can easily direct people to relevant official information and anyone can find the energy information they need.

We're grateful to all our volunteers, Sobia our Energy Adviser, Ruth our representative on the TTI Steering group, Begoña for her help with the website, Community Action Redbridge for advertising our volunteer opportunities, and Maria and Michael at the Library.

Lorraine Dawes
Volunteer Coordinator, Energy Cafe
December 2024

Food coop

We are a small food coop in Ilford

What is a food coop

A food coop can be described as a community based shopping opportunity

Who we are and our aims

We are 6 to 8 member and we share some common values which we strive to apply to lives:

- Accessing healthy food at value for money; where possible organic and fair trade
- Reducing packaging/ plastic
- Reducing food miles
- Actively seeking alternatives to supermarkets/ large corporation
- Nurture social contacts

Orders with Infinity Food Wholesale

Since our previous AGM in May 2023, we did 4 orders with Infinity Food Wholesale; 2 of them in 2024

Projects

-We'd like to encourage others to form their own food coop in Redbridge/ Ilford; however so far we've not "mushroomed".

Nevertheless this stays one of our endeavors and we do offer individuals the opportunity to join us as a guest and participate in an order so they can see whether it is something they want to take forward.

-We'd like to find a way to evaluate/ measure our environmental impact to assess whether we are meeting this aspect of our aims/ objective

Are we really reducing packaging/ plastic and how much? For example, when we buy a 5kg bag of rice, how much packaging are we saving?

Are we really reducing food miles and how many (compared to buying in a high street supermarket)?

If anyone has any interest or experience in these budding project, let's have a conversation.

Love the Cran Brook

We held a community walk in August this year with local psycho geographer John Rogers. This was to explore the water ways in Valentines Park, to draw on the knowledge of local people and to raise interest in the Cran Brook . The Cran Brook emerges just by the Forest Garden and is polluted . We want to find out if we can get a project going to help restore it to a bio diverse waterway. The walk was extremely well attended and was great fun. We hope to run some citizen science activities in 2025.

