

Company Number: 03788484
Charity Number: 1079635

THE ARBORY TRUST

(A company limited by guarantee and not having share capital)

**REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2024**

**THE ARBORY TRUST
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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Principal address:

The Lodge
The Barton Woodland Burial Ground
Comberton Road
Barton
Cambridge
CB23 7BA

Company Number:

03788484

Charity Number:

1079635

Bankers:

Barclays Bank Plc
Cambridge
CB2 3XN

Solicitors:

Lee Bolton Monier - Williams
1 The Sanctuary
Westminster
London

Independent Examiner

Naomi Hedger BFP FCA CTA
7 Quay Court
Colliers Lane
Stow-cum-Quay
CB25 9AU

**THE ARBORY TRUST
TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

The Trustees present their annual report with the financial statements of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2024.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The object of the charity is the provision and maintenance of public burial grounds in the advancement of Christian religion. The Trustees in setting their objectives have had due regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The popularity of Barton continues. We are using the glades in the North Glebe for Burials and have filled Glade 1 (Hornbeam), Glade 2 (Aspen), Glade 4 (Birch), Crab Apple (Glade 5) and Willow (Glade 3). Spindle (Glade 8) and Oak (Glade 7) and Wayfaring (Glade 6), Ash (Glade 9) and Maple (Glade 10) are now open.

There were in total, 172 burials and 103 interments of ashes in 2024 [192 Burials and 111 Ash internments in 2023]. There was a consistent flow of Funerals throughout the year.

Burial reservations have not been allowed since 2019. The Trust can retract that decision at any time in the future. People are allowed a reservation when it is booked at time of the burial of their loved one. We seem to be taking more double depth reservations because of this. Ash burials are increasing in number.

The Trust anticipates that the number of reservations and interments in 2024 will continue to match if not exceed that of previous years. It is the dedication and cohesion of the whole team, whether employees or volunteers both at Barton and Ely, that contributes hugely to the Trust's success.

The Trustees report that Glebe Rise (extension to the site), has now had 300 trees planted, all fenced off and growing well.

Trustees

There have been no new Trustees appointed.

Paul Evans has stepped down as Trustee. The Arbory Trust are grateful for his support over the years.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

The net surplus for the year amounted to £104,168 (2023 - £139,881).

Risk analysis

The trustees confirm that major risks to which the Trust is exposed are reviewed regularly. The trustees delegate to a Working Group of trustees the task of ensuring that risks are reviewed and managed.

Reserves policy

The Trust aims to hold free reserves sufficient to cover 12 months of charitable expenditure, currently estimated at £ 95,000. At 31 December 2024 the Trust's free reserves were £1,035,010. The long term aim of the reserves is to enable for future acquisition of land for woodland burials, either at Barton or elsewhere and for site maintenance in-perpetuity.

**THE ARBORY TRUST
TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

Plans for the future

The Trust have obtained Planning Permission for the extension of the Service Room extension. This is to make sure our families can be seated comfortably rather than stand outside when large funerals are taking place. Plans are now commencing for fund raising and construction.

The planting of trees in Glebe Rise has been completed with the planting of 3,000 trees. All tracks and fencing complete.

Regarding Covid 19, we will still plan to have safety measures in place including social distancing signs and sanitiser in place around the venue. Signs will be present to remind people to be careful. We will keep the Lodge well ventilated when families are having a service.

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

The charity was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee on 11 June 1999 and registered with the Charity Commission on 29 February 2000, charity number 1079635.

Day to day management of the work of the Trust is undertaken by the Manager, under the direction of the working group of Trustees. The working group meets 4 times per year, usually February, April, June and November and the full annual meeting takes place in September.

Appointment of Trustees

The Chairman of the Trust must be a Bishop of the Church of England. Other trustees are appointed to provide expertise in the following areas: land and woodland management; finance; ecological matters; and burial practice of the Christian Church. All of these areas are covered by the current trustees. Upon appointment new trustees are given an induction pack, which includes working group meeting minutes, past issues of the newsletter and the most recent annual accounts, and are invited to attend a trustees meeting before accepting the trusteeship.

Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the trust as at the end of the financial year and of the surplus or deficit of the trust for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- comply with applicable Accounting Standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the trust will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the trust and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act and the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

THE ARBORY TRUST
TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Charity Trustees

The Trustees who served during the year were:

The Venerable Dr Alex Hughes
Mr Richard Pemberton (Acting Chairman from 1 July 2023)
The Revd Peter C Owen Jones
Mr Howard John Dellar
Dr Gareth John Thomas
Mrs Judy Pearson
Mr John Boocock BEM
Mrs Deryn Coe
Mr Paul Lawson Evans (resigned 9 August 2024)
Mr Francis William Miles Burkitt

Secretary

Mrs S Mila

Signed by:



Richard Pemberton

Date: 9/9/2025

**THE ARBORY TRUST
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 5 to 12.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As the charity trustees of the company 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

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:

- (a) accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- (b) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- (c) the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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
- (d) 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 account in accordance with 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



Naomi Hedger BFP FCA CTA (Independent Examiner)

Date: 19/09/2025

Chater Allan LLP
Chartered Accountants
7 Quay Court
Colliers Lane
Stow-cum-Quay
CB25 9AU

THE ARBORY TRUST
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

		Unrestricted Funds		
	Note	General Fund £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income From:				
Donations and legacies		3,384	3,384	1,620
Charitable activities	2	277,389	277,389	271,995
Investments		8,517	8,517	8,156
Total		289,290	289,290	281,771
Expenditure On:				
Charitable activities	3	192,048	192,048	167,640
Total		192,048	192,048	167,640
Net gain/(loss) on investments	7	6,926	6,926	25,750
Net Income (Expenditure)		104,168	104,168	139,881
Reconciliation Of Funds:				
Total funds brought forward		1,757,159	1,757,159	1,617,278
Total funds carried forward		1,861,327	1,861,327	1,757,159

Continuing operations

None of the Trust's activities were acquired or discontinued during the above two financial periods.

THE ARBORY TRUST
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

Company Number: 03788484

	Note	2024	2023
		£	£
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	6	826,318	746,557
Investments	7	319,148	303,705
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stock	8	1,638	1,098
Debtors	9	57,116	84,576
Cash at bank		664,712	627,116
		<u>723,466</u>	<u>712,790</u>
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(7,605)</u>	<u>(5,893)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>715,861</u>	<u>706,897</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>1,861,327</u>	<u>1,757,159</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>1,861,327</u>	<u>1,757,159</u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds:			
General fund:			
Other reserves		1,785,417	1,688,174
Revaluation reserve	13	75,911	68,985
	11	<u>1,861,327</u>	<u>1,757,159</u>
		<u>1,861,327</u>	<u>1,757,159</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

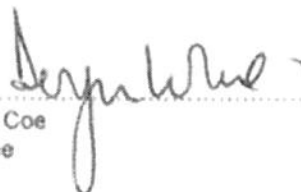
(a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and;

(b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its profit or loss for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 9/9/2025 and were signed on its behalf by:



Richard Pemberton
Trustee



Deryn Coe
Trustee

THE ARBORY TRUST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the 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

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102

(b) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Reservation fees are recognised upon receipt and not treated as restricted due to future costs being negligible

(c) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

(d) Tangible fixed assets

Land is not depreciated. The Memorial Lodge and its furnishings are depreciated to write off the cost over the estimated useful life of between 10 and 25 years. Computers are depreciated over an estimated useful life of 3 years.

(e) Taxation

The company is a registered charity and as such is not liable to taxation.

(f) Income and expenditure

The inclusion of an Income and Expenditure account is not deemed necessary as the relevant information is included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

(g) Investments

Investments listed at the stock exchange are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. The SOFA includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposal throughout the year.

(h) Pension contributions

The company operates a defined benefit pension scheme for one member of staff. It is a multi-employer scheme and it is not possible to attribute scheme assets and liabilities to specific employers. Contributions are accounted for as if it was a defined contribution scheme.

(i) Going Concern

The trustees have considered the financial position of the charitable company and believe it is well placed to manage its business risk successfully.

The trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company will have adequate resources to meet its financial obligations for the next 12 to 18 months and, on that basis, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual reports and the financial statements.

THE ARBORY TRUST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

2 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Ash/Partner Reservations	Burial fees	Grants	Room hire and other income	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Woodland burial ground	37,820	205,490	11,129	22,950	277,389	271,995

3a EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

SUMMARY	Direct Costs £	Support Costs £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Woodland burial ground	179,820	12,228	192,048	167,640

3b EXPENDITURE ON DIRECT COSTS

	General Fund £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Staff costs	68,329	68,329	65,454
Travel and guardian expenses	1,732	1,732	1,847
Telephone	1,611	1,611	1,328
Payroll processing costs	2,249	2,249	2,059
Printing and stationery	1,387	1,387	1,601
Computer expenses	1,405	1,405	1,255
Grave digging	7,005	7,005	6,103
Lodge expenses	8,473	8,473	6,385
Grounds maintenance	67,984	67,984	51,879
Professional fees	6,866	6,866	4,875
Depreciation	11,779	11,779	11,797
Car park rent	1,000	1,000	1,000
Promotion	-	-	1,250
	179,820	179,820	156,833

3c EXPENDITURE ON SUPPORT COSTS

	General Fund £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Insurance	1,758	1,758	1,532
Utilities	5,152	5,152	3,760
Diocesan office costs	1,500	1,500	1,500
Governance (Note 4)	3,540	3,540	3,720
Bank charges	278	278	295
	12,228	12,228	10,807

THE ARBORY TRUST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

4 EXPENDITURE ON GOVERNANCE

	General Fund £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Accountancy fees - current year	3,540	3,540	3,720
	<u>3,540</u>	<u>3,540</u>	<u>3,720</u>

No Trustees received any expenses during the year (2023: £Nil).

5 STAFF COSTS

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	67,306	64,603
Pension cost	1,023	851
Pension deficit reduction cost	-	-
	<u>68,329</u>	<u>65,454</u>

Key management personnel

The total employment benefits including pension contributions of key management personnel was £31,588 (2023: £32,441)

No employee earned £60,000 or more during the year.

The average number of employees during the year was 4 (2023-4)

No trustee received remuneration during the year (2023: £Nil)

6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Land £	Memorial Lodge £	Equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 January 2024	642,435	144,862	31,112	818,409
Additions	87,562	-	3,976	91,538
At 31 December 2024	<u>729,997</u>	<u>144,862</u>	<u>35,088</u>	<u>909,947</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2024	-	54,807	17,045	71,851
Charge for year	-	9,195	2,583	11,778
At 31 December 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>64,002</u>	<u>19,628</u>	<u>83,629</u>
Net book value				
At 31 December 2024	<u>729,997</u>	<u>80,860</u>	<u>15,460</u>	<u>826,318</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>642,435</u>	<u>90,055</u>	<u>14,067</u>	<u>746,558</u>

The Trust's fixed assets are all used for charitable purposes.

THE ARBORY TRUST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

7 INVESTMENTS	2024	2023
	£	£
Listed investments:		
Central Board of Finance : Income Shares	319,148	303,705
	<u>319,148</u>	<u>303,705</u>
Movements in the year: Income shares	£	
Balance at 1 January 2024	303,705	
Additions	-	
Reinvested income	8,517	
Disposals	-	
Revaluation - unrealised	6,926	
- realised	-	
Balance at 31 December 2023	<u>319,148</u>	
8 STOCK	2024	2023
	£	£
Grave microchips	1,638	1,098
	<u>1,638</u>	<u>1,098</u>
9 DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS	2024	2023
	£	£
Prepayments	49,016	333
Accrued income	3,869	3,869
Due from Ely Diocesan Board of Finance	4,231	80,374
	<u>57,116</u>	<u>84,576</u>
10 CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	2024	2023
	£	£
Creditors & accruals	7,605	5,893
	<u>7,605</u>	<u>5,893</u>

THE ARBORY TRUST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

11 FUNDS	General Fund £	Total £
Balance at 1 January 2024	1,757,159	1,757,159
Surplus/(Deficit) for the period	104,168	104,168
Balance at 31 December 2024	<u>1,861,327</u>	<u>1,861,327</u>

12 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	General Fund £	Total £
Fixed assets	826,318	826,318
Net assets/(liabilities)	1,035,010	1,035,010
Total net assets	<u>1,861,327</u>	<u>1,861,327</u>

13 REVALUATION RESERVE

	2024 £	2023 £
Balance at 1 January 2024	68,985	43,235
Revaluation in the year	6,926	25,750
Balance at 31 December 2024	<u>75,911</u>	<u>68,985</u>

14 CONTROLLING PARTY

The charity is controlled by the Board of Trustees.

THE ARBORY TRUST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

15 PENSION COSTS

The Arbory Trust is part of the Ely Diocesan Board of Finance (DBS) pension scheme. Ely DBF (DBS) participates in the Defined Benefits Scheme section of CWPF for lay staff. The Scheme is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the assets of the scheme separately from those of ELY DBF (the employer) and the other participating employers.

CWPF has two sections:

1. the Defined Benefits Scheme
2. the Pension Builder Scheme, which has two subsections;
 - a. a deferred annuity section known as Pension Builder Classic, and,
 - b. a cash balance section known as Pension Builder 2014.

Pension Builder Scheme

Both sections of the Pension Builder Scheme are classed as defined benefit schemes.

Pension Builder Classic provides a pension, accumulated from contributions paid and converted into a deferred annuity during employment based on terms set and reviewed by the Church of England Pensions Board from time to time. Discretionary increases may also be added, depending on investment returns and other factors.

Pension Builder 2014 is a cash balance scheme that provides a lump sum which members use to provide benefits at retirement. Pension contributions are recorded in an account for each member. Discretionary bonuses may be added before retirement, depending on investment returns and other factors. The account, plus any bonuses declared is payable, unreduced, from age 65.

There is no sub-division of assets between employers in each section of the Pension Builder Scheme.

The scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Pension Builder Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and means that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are the contributions payable (2024: £1,023, 2023: £851).

A valuation of the Pension Builder Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent valuation was carried out as at 31 December 2022.

For the Pension Builder Classic section, the valuation revealed a surplus of £34.8m on the ongoing assumptions used. At the most recent annual review effective 1 January 2025, the Board chose to grant a discretionary bonus of 6.7% to both pensions not yet in payment and pensions in payment in respect of service prior to April 1997; and a bonus on pensions in payment in respect of post April 2006 service so that the pension increase was 2.7% (where usually it would be calculated based on inflation up to 2.5%). This followed improvements in the funding position over 2024. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

The next valuation is due as at 31 December 2025.

For the Pension Builder 2014 section, the valuation revealed a surplus of £8.5m on the ongoing assumptions used. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another employer fails, The Arbory Trust could become responsible for paying a share of the failed employer's pension liabilities.