

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

England & Wales · Charity number 1080407

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2000-04-19

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 141 Mount View Road
Sheffield
S8 8PJ

Phone 01142589562

Email friends@gravespark.org

Website <https://friendsofgravespark.org/>

Activities

Objects: (1) TO ASSIST OTHER TRUSTS WITH INTERESTS IN GRAVES PARK IN ENHANCING AND MAINTAINING THE PARK FOR LEISURE, EDUCATION AND CONSERVATION IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY(2) TO PRESERVE THE FLORA AND FAUNA FOR THE BENEFIT AND ENJOYMENT OF THE PARK USERS

Activities: To assist other Trusts with interests in Graves Park in enhancing and maintaining the park for leisure, education and conservation in conjunction with the local community and in particular the citizens of Sheffield. To preserve the fauna and flora for the benefit and enjoyment of park users. To act as a conduit in raising funds to achieve those objects.

Classification

- **How:** Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Sheffield City

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£79,795	£70,642	-	-
2024-03-31	£149,328	£144,895	-	-
2023-03-31	£10,420	£4,859	-	-
2022-03-31	£5,555	£3,907	-	-
2021-03-31	£9,550	£1,345	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
CAROLINE D DEWAR	Chair	
BARBARA GREATOREX		
David Hartlebury		2019-07-03
ERNEST WILLIAM BREWIN		
Maureen Edwards		2024-11-28
Peter Robert Bragg		2024-11-28
STEVEN CHAPMAN		

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

England & Wales - Charity number 1080407

Accounts

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

INDEX TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	<u>PAGE</u>
Legal and Administrative Details	1
Trustees' Report	2 - 3
Chair's Report	4 - 6
Treasurer's Report	7
Independent Examiner's Report	8
Statement of Financial Activities	9
Balance Sheet	10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11 - 12

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity Registration Number : 1080407

Address of Charity: 141 Mount View Road
Sheffield
S8 8PJ

Trustees:

- C.D. Dewar
- D. Hartlebury
- E.W. Brewin (appointed 28/11/2024)
- B.A. Greatorex
- P.K. Hobson
- S. Chapman
- P.R. Bragg (appointed 28/11/2024)
- M. Edwards (appointed 28/11/2024)
- L. Baxter (resigned 18/11/2024)
- P.L. Whitfield (resigned 19/11/2024)
- L.P. Baxter (resigned 18/11/2024)
- S. Whitfield (resigned 19/11/2024)

Bankers: Lloyds Bank plc
1 High Street
Sheffield
S1 2GA

Independent Examiner: Peter Shield
40 Bartle Road
Sheffield
S12 2QQ

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in Note 1 to the accounts which can be found on page 11.

Constitution and Objects

The charity is constituted by a Scheme of the Charity Commissioners adopted 7 September 1999 and amended 22 March 2000.

The objects of the charity are:

to assist other trusts with interests in Graves Park in enhancing and maintaining the park for leisure, education and conservation in conjunction with the local community and:

to preserve the flora and fauna for the benefit and enjoyment of the park users.

The trustees have referred to the guidance given by the Charity Commission on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives. Details of the activities that have taken place during the year can be found later in this report.

Organisational Structure

The trustees who have served the charity during the year are shown on page 1.

Financial Review

The charity had net incoming resources of £9,153 (2024: net incoming resources £4,433). The trustees are aware of their responsibilities and by working closely together are hopeful that future years will reflect a surplus of incoming resources.

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of the trustees to maintain unrestricted funds which are the free reserves of the charity, at a level to provide sufficient funds to cover anticipated administration and support costs for a period of 12 months.

Risk Management

The trustees are aware of the operational and financial risks which the charity faces and regularly review those risks to mitigate against any impact they may have on the charity. The major risk facing the charity is the continued support of the individuals and the community in using the facilities and the introduction of the younger generation to provide for the future. The trustees work closely together with members to address these risks.

Investment Policy

The charity now has a policy to open accounts with other bodies in order to get interest on our reserves, all accounts to be FSCS Guaranteed.

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025 (CONTINUED)

Review of Activities

The trustees have referred to the guidance given by the Charity Commission on public benefit when reviewing the aims and activities and as a result, the activities described in the chairman's report and the treasurer's report have taken place during the year.

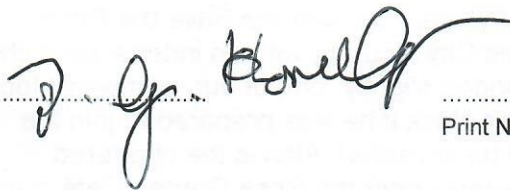
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to;

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statement
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention of fraud and other irregularities.

.....
Signed - Trustee



.....
Print Name - Trustee

DAVID HARTELBURY

.....
Date

28/10/2025

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

AGM 2025 CHAIR'S REPORT

Welcome to the Friends of Graves Park's AGM, in our 25th year. We have managed to return to the Rose Garden Café for our meeting this year, for the first time in 3 years, now that the café is fully open again.

Since our last AGM in September 2024, the Friends have been very busy, as usual, trying (sometimes with difficulty) to protect the park and uphold the will and wish of J. G. Graves.

Finding Lost Norton Park: Digging Deeper for All

Our project drew to a close last year, after 18 months of events and activities, looking into the history, archaeology and ecology of Graves Park. Working with partners, South Yorkshire Biodiversity Research Group, this project was digging deeper into the history, heritage, ecology, archaeology and local memories of our historic park. Our success in securing support from the National Lottery Heritage Fund by being awarded a grant of £142,770 (final total received from the National Lottery Heritage Fund = £130,651.64), along with the £5,000 the Friends were able to contribute, has given us an opportunity to pursue our research of Graves Park. We were able to involve the community in the project and all feedback from those involved has been very positive. The new maps, of the heritage, trees and wildlife in Graves Park, have been very well received and we are so pleased with being able to produce these at last. We were also able to produce new noticeboards for the park, which are all now in place, at entrances, key sites in the park and in Chantreyland Meadow. We have a film of the project, as well as little videos, an interactive map on Sky Maps and photogrammetry on Sketchfab, which displays detailed models of features in the park. All the results of our project will eventually be online on our website and on SYBRG's website, for everybody to access. Another of the outcomes will be reports compiled from the results of all the information we have amassed, which will eventually, we hope, further protect Graves Park.

Rose Garden Café Restoration

The Friends have continued to work in the Partnership, with the Save the Rose Garden Café Campaign Group and Sheffield City Council, with an independent chair. Since last year, our representation has changed slightly; one of our members stood down, so we took the opportunity to ask Alan Nock if he was prepared to join the Partnership as a FOGP representative and he accepted. Alan is the chartered surveyor who conducted our independent survey after the Rose Garden Café closed. He also attended the earlier meetings with the Council. As with those meetings, Alan is now offering his services pro bono and we are most grateful for his help and advice. We are so pleased he has joined us in the Partnership!

We also have Chris Hill, the architect who produced some initial drawings for us, who is now working on the restoration project and has produced the drawings for the restoration. We are also very pleased that Chris is working with the Partnership! At our last meeting, the Partnership divided the restoration project up into phases, which gives us the opportunity to focus on different funding providers. Our primary focus is on the heritage aspect of this iconic building, although other phases are also important in terms of improving the café as a whole. The Friends have told the Partnership about the upcoming anniversary of the café first opening in July 1927; it is our goal to have the restoration of the café completed by this date. We look forward to planning this celebration. In the meantime, the Friends continue to work with the

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

AGM 2025 CHAIR'S REPORT (CONTIINUED)

Fundraising for the café restoration has taken up a lot of our time this year. We have supported events and activities run by the Rose Garden Café Community Fundraising Group, as well as running events ourselves. We helped with the Craft, Christmas and Easter Fairs. We have helped with promotion of events, for which we can now have posters put in the new display boxes below our new noticeboards around the park. David has conducted several fundraising walks and will continue to run these in the future. I have given talks and run walks where the donations received have gone into the fund. We have several collection boxes at the café and other local places, which are helping to add to the funds. We are continuing to keep a tally of the funds raised and this is added to the online donations on our Just Giving page. Maintenance of the Just Giving page, the management of collection boxes and the maintenance of the website and our Facebook pages all takes a considerable amount of time, but it is worth it.

Restoration of the Norton Nurseries Site

The Friends have attended every Charity Subcommittee meeting at the Council this year. We have raised questions about the use of the Norton Nurseries site, its abuse by the Council in its use as a depot and rubbish collection tip and the Council's refusal to cooperate with the reorganisation of the site, so that our restoration of the third section of Chantreyland Meadow and Arboretum can begin. At every meeting we have asked questions of the Charity Subcommittee, however we seldom if ever get a straight answer. We will continue to ask questions, of the Charity Subcommittee and via the Freedom of Information route, until we get the next section released for restoration, as agreed many times in the past.

The Friends have detailed plans for this next section and are raring to go as soon as approval is given. We have some funds put aside for this, however, we are confident that we could also raise funds from the local community and supporters as soon as permission is forthcoming. We know that this is a despoiled site, with much of the rubbish from the nursery activities buried under the compacted ground, however, we are up for the challenge and are determined that this site will become parkland once again, to ensure that there are never future plans to build on the site.

Protecting Graves Park

The Friends have written to the Charity Commission several times during the past year, including raising concerns about the disposal of land, related to cricket, tennis and the continued blocking of the restoration of the Norton Nurseries site. So far we have not received definitive responses from the Commission, however, we continue to keep them informed and they have said that they are reviewing what we are sending them and will be in touch in due course.

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

AGM 2025 CHAIR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Protecting Graves Park (Continued)

We met with the Allama Iqbal Cricket Club, on the cricket ground, in September 2024. The group confirmed that they did not want to lease the land, although they were very keen to continue to play cricket on the old Norton Woodseats CC site and wanted to refurbish the changing rooms. An agreement was made that the Friends would support any funding applications and would be prepared to help if required. The club is now leasing the changing rooms building only, on a short term lease, which is acceptable. This was endorsed by the Charity Subcommittee in November 2024.

The Friends finally managed to accept an invitation to meet with the Food Works director, Rene, (once our diaries matched) where we walked around the greenhouses and discussed the plans that Food Works has. We also shared our plans for the restoration of the next section of the Arboretum with Rene, taking him on a tour of Chantreyland Meadow and Arboretum, as he had never been. While we are broadly supportive of the greenhouses being brought back into use, we do not have the time to work directly with Food Works, although our volunteers, in Chantreyland Meadow and Arboretum, work alongside their volunteers on a Sunday.

Activities and Events

We have continued to be very active in spreading the word about Graves Park and representing the Friends. Over the past year, we have run Heritage Open Days walks, attended the Sheffield Heritage Fair Weekend again (giving out lots of our new maps), attended some LAC meetings, represented FOGP at SYBRG's Climate Change event, amongst many other activities. We have indeed been very busy!

The Friends will continue to make Freedom of Information requests and we will continue to inform the Charity Commission of the activities of the trustee, until we are able to reach a position where the parkland is safe.

There are many opportunities for any of you who have skills or an interest in local history, horticulture/gardening, trees, wildlife, applying for grants or campaigning (or any other skills or interests you think might help us). We desperately need members to join our committee (we really need a secretary) or offer your services as a volunteer. Please do get in touch if you think you can help us.

Finally, yet again thank you to all our members, for your continued support, your generous donations and the campaigning over the past 12 months. We continue to be one of the largest friends' groups in Sheffield. We will keep working towards ensuring that Graves Park is protected permanently for the benefit of all the citizens of Sheffield.

Caroline D. Dewar
16th July 2025

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Digging Deeper project is now complete both physically and financially, with the remaining grant money being received from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, following spending on the activities. There was a small amount of money provided from the Friends of Graves Park fund, this was always going to be the case as the Friends agreed to provide £5,000 match funding.

There are presently two ongoing funds held by the Friends, the general fund and the Rose Garden Café Restoration fund. The latter is being held on behalf of the Rose Garden Café Restoration Partnership, which is made up of Sheffield City Council, the Save the Rose Garden Café Group and Friends of Graves Park. Discussions are underway between the Partners on the procedures for committing and spending this money and also the receipt of grant money from the various bodies that could help with funding. At 31st March 2025, this fund stood at £18,764 but this included a grant from Sheffield City Council of £2,092 which had to be spent on fundraising equipment and services, of this £2,092 only £1,409 had been committed meaning that the actual money held towards the restoration costs was £18,081. However this has since risen to around £25,000. If you look at page 9, there is a breakdown of where the money received in 24/25 came from. Thank you to all those who contributed either directly or with their time.

The general Friends of Graves Park fund stood at £16,036 at 31st March 2025. This fund provides the money for the day to day running of the Friends and also it will be used towards the funding of the restoration of the next section of Norton Nurseries back to parkland when it is released by the park trustees. When this happens, there will be a requirement to raise more money. Again if you look at page 9, there is a breakdown of expenditure so you can get an idea of the order of annual running costs for the Friends.

The Friends have three bank accounts, one for the day to day transactions and two savings accounts. The majority of the money held is kept in an account which returns a reasonable rate of interest given that there is a much more limited choice of accounts offered to charities by the banks.

I took over from Lee Baxter as Treasurer early in December following Lee's resignation. Thanks go to Lee for getting us up and running with internet banking and for creating a new accounting system making use of more modern technology. In response to Charity Commission requirements, we have also been putting together various procedures including financial ones. These are not yet formally agreed and adopted by the trustees but this should follow soon.

Thank you also to Peter Shield for preparing our formal accounts and also for his advice and help with the financial procedures.

Philip Hobson

16th July 2025

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK**

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above named charity (registered no. 1080407) for the year ended 31 March 2025, set out on pages 9 to 12.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

I report in respect of my examination of The Trustees' accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiners Statement

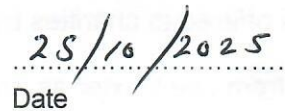
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the act: or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- (3) the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give 'a true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.



Peter Shield



Date

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	<u>Note</u>	<u>Unres- tricted Funds</u>	<u>Desig- nated Funds</u>	<u>Res- tricted Funds</u>	<u>Total 2025</u>	<u>Total 2024</u>
		£	£	£	£	£
<u>Income and Endowments</u>						
Membership fees and donations		1,991	-	-	1,991	2,974
Gift Aid		136	-	-	136	628
Just Giving		187	-	2,157	2,344	2,391
Easy Fundraising/Amazon/Paypal		44	-	-	44	65
Rose Garden Cafe fundraisers		-	-	1,950	1,950	500
Direct Donation		139	-	1,052	1,191	-
Bank Interest		92	-	104	196	-
Earned income - talks, presentations		-	-	881	881	-
Duke's Café Donation		-	-	2,049	2,049	-
SCC CIL Grant		-	-	2,092	2,092	-
Transfer from Unrestricted to Designated funds		-	641	-	641	-
National Lottery Heritage Fund	2	-	66,280	-	66,280	64,372
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		<u>2,589</u>	<u>66,921</u>	<u>10,285</u>	<u>79,795</u>	<u>70,930</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>						
Rose Garden Café surveyor and other costs		-	-	1,409	1,409	210
Printing, postage, stationery and consumables		709	-	-	709	669
Insurance		203	-	-	203	191
Website		126	-	-	126	632
Meeting expenses		51	-	-	51	80
Just Giving		216	-	-	216	216
Sundries		117	-	-	117	127
Gardening consumables and small tools		249	-	-	249	-
Transfer from Unrestricted to Designated funds		641	-	-	641	-
NLH Fund - digging deeper	2	-	66,921	-	66,921	64,372
					-	
Total Expenditure		<u>2,312</u>	<u>66,921</u>	<u>1,409</u>	<u>70,642</u>	<u>66,497</u>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		277	-	8,876	9,153	4,433
Fund balances brought forward		15,759	-	9,888	25,647	21,214
FUND BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD		<u>16,036</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,764</u>	<u>34,800</u>	<u>25,647</u>

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

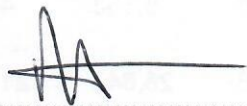
	<u>NOTE</u>	<u>2025</u>		<u>2024</u>	
		£	£	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank		34,798		22,319	
Debtor		-		3,328	
		34,798		25,647	
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditor		-		75,070	
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
			34,798		25,647
TOTAL ASSETS					
			34,798		25,647
FINANCED BY:					
Unrestricted Funds			16,036		15,759
Designated Funds			-		-
Restricted Funds - Rose Garden Café	3		18,764		9,888
			34,800		25,647

The financial statements were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:



 Signed - Trustee

Caroline Dewar - Chairman



 Signed - Trustee

Philip Hobson - Treasurer

25/10/2025

 Date

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of preparation and assessment of going concern

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (FRS102) and the Financial reporting Standard (FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees have a reasonable expectation the Trust has adequate reserves to continue in operation existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis in the preparation of the accounts.

b) Income Recognition

Income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations are recognised when they are received.

c) Expenditure Recognition

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Grants are recognised when they are approved and the intention has been communicated to the recipient.

2 DESIGNATED FUND NATIONAL LOTTERY HERITAGE FUND

For comments about the conclusion of the project, please see the Chair's Report (page 4).

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025 (CONTINUED)

3 RESTRICTED FUND ROSE GARDEN CAFÉ

The purpose of this fund is to provide resources to facilitate the restoration of the Rose Garden Garden Café to its former glory.

The Friends of Graves Park are working in a Partnership with the Save the Rose Garden Café Campaign Group and Sheffield City Council, with an independent chair, to restore and fully reopen to allow funds within our bank account for this restoration.

For more details on the Partnership and progress, please see the Chair's Report (page 4).

As of 16/07/2025 the total raised by public donations and events is: £24,958.

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

England & Wales - Charity number 1080407

Accounts

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

INDEX TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	<u>PAGE</u>
Legal and Administrative Details	1
Trustees' Report	2 - 3
Chairman's Report	4 - 6
Treasurer's Report	7
Independent Examiner's Report	8
Statement of Financial Activities	9
Balance Sheet	10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11 - 12

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity Registration Number : 1080407

Address of Charity: 139 Mount View Road
Sheffield
S8 8PJ

Trustees: C.D. Dewar
D. Hartlebury
L. Baxter (appointed 11/09/2023)
S.R. Chapman
G.J. Baxter
B.A. Greatorex
E.W. Brewin
S. Whitfield
P.L. Whitfield (appointed 11/09/2023)
L.P. Baxter (appointed 11/09/2023)
P.K. Hobson (appointed 03/10/2023)

Bankers: Lloyds Bank plc
1 High Street
Sheffield
S1 2GA

Independent Examiner: Peter Shield
40 Bartle Road
Sheffield
S12 2QQ

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in Note 1 to the accounts which can be found on page 7.

Constitution and Objects

The charity is constituted by a Scheme of the Charity Commissioners adopted 7 September 1999 and amended 22 March 2000.

The object of the charity is to assist other trusts with interests in Graves Park in enhancing and maintaining the park for leisure, education and conservation in conjunction with the local community and to preserve the flora and fauna for the benefit and enjoyment of the park users.

The trustees have referred to the guidance given by the Charity Commission on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and details of the activities that have taken place during the year can be found later in this report.

Organisational Structure

The trustees who have served the charity during the year are shown on page 1.

Financial Review

The charity had net incoming resources of £4,433 (2023: net incoming resources £5,561). The trustees are aware of their responsibilities and by working closely together are hopeful that future years will reflect a surplus of incoming resources.

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of the trustees to maintain unrestricted funds which are the free reserves of the charity, at a level to provide sufficient funds to cover anticipated administration and support costs for a period of 12 months.

Risk Management

The trustees are aware of the operational and financial risks which the charity faces and regularly review those risks to mitigate against any impact they may have on the charity. The major risk facing the charity is the continued support of the individuals and the community in using the facilities and the introduction of the younger generation to provide for the future. The trustees work closely together with members to address these risks.

Investment Policy

The charity does not have an investment policy as such as the trustees feel there are insufficient funds to consider any sort of investment at this time. However, they will continue to monitor this situation and make changes accordingly.

Continued...

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 (CONTINUED)

Review of Activities

The trustees have referred to the guidance given by the Charity Commission on public benefit when reviewing the aims and activities and, as a result, the activities described in the chairman's report and the treasurer's report have taken place during the year.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to;

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statement
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention of fraud and other irregularities.



Signed - Trustee



Print Name - Trustee

2nd September 2024

Date

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

AGM 2024 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Welcome to the Friends of Graves Park's AGM, in our 24th year. We are meeting in Mount View Methodist Church again this year, because we are still unable to meet in the Rose Garden Café, however, we are hopeful that next year we will be back in the café, now that it is fully open again.

Since our last AGM in September 2023, the Friends have been yet again in a whirlwind of activity, trying to protect the park and uphold the will and wish of J. G. Graves.

Finding Lost Norton Park: Digging Deeper for All

Our project is drawing to a close after a very successful 18 months of surveys, walks, talks and events. Working with partners, South Yorkshire Biodiversity Research Group, this project was digging deeper into the history, heritage, ecology, archaeology and local memories of our historic park. Our success in securing support from the National Lottery Heritage Fund by being awarded a grant of £142,770, along with the £5,000 the Friends were able to contribute, has given us an opportunity to pursue our research of Graves Park. We were able to involve the community in the project and all feedback from those involved has been very positive. The new maps, of the heritage, trees and wildlife in Graves Park have been very well received and we are so pleased with being able to produce these at last. We are also able to produce new noticeboards for the park, which will be erected in the next couple of months. We have a film of the project, as well as little videos, an interactive map on Sky Maps and photogrammetry on Sketchfab, which displays detailed models of features in the park. All the results of our project will eventually be online on our website, for everybody to access. Another of the outcomes will be reports compiled from the results of all the information we have amassed, which will eventually, we hope, further protect Graves Park.

Himalayan Balsam

The Balsam has been cleared this year by volunteers from "Riverlution", advised by Professor Ian Rotherham.

Rose Garden Café Restoration

Since the last AGM, the Council's Charity Subcommittee voted for a partnership to be set up between the Friends, the Save the Rose Garden Café Group and Sheffield City Council, with an independent chair appointed. All this is now in place and the Partnership is actively working towards the restoration of the building. The Friends are attending regular meetings, with 3 of us in attendance.

Working on Chantreyland Meadow and the Arboretum

This year's report is similar to last year's however, some attitudes in the council seem to be moving. Our volunteers will update you on their work in this area shortly, however, those of us trying to get the next section of the arboretum released so that it can be restored are still struggling against the will of some council officers in Sheffield City Council. Since last year, we have formally contacted the Charity Commission about the council's refusal to release this section and about their use of the site, because they are still using it as a waste disposal collection site and council depot.

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

AGM 2024 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

The Charity Commission has at long last started to ask questions and has stated that SCC may be in breach of trust. Committee members have also met with Tom Hunt, Leader of the Council and we have met Councillor Fran Belbin at the Nursery Site. We have also met with the current leader of the Charity Subcommittee, Councillor Richard Williams. We have attended the meetings of the Charity Sub-committee, asking regular questions and by taking regular photographs to show just how empty it is. We have also continued to ask questions via the Freedom of Information procedure and will continue to pursue this until we finally get this situation resolved. This will include continuing to inform the Charity Commission of inconsistencies in the responses to them by Sheffield City Council. Our constant pressure appears to be working and hopefully eventually we will be successful and work can start on the restoration of the next section. We will keep you posted.

Land Disposals in Graves Park

The disposal by SCC of the tennis courts in Graves Park, on a 25 year lease, was voted through by the Charity Subcommittee last year. Since then, the Friends have written to the Charity Commission to complain about this, as a 25 year lease is contrary to the conveyance and its benefit to the Graves Park trust, as the lease is part of the Hillsborough Park initiative, is difficult to see. Once again, SCC is selling, disposing of or privatising bits of Graves Park, this time along with 8 other parks, 4 of which are charitable. One of the results of this approval was that the Friends of Hillsborough Park decided to disband.

In the summer, the Friends were informed that SCC wanted to lease the cricket pitch, on the south side of the park by Charles Ashmore entrance, to a group who wanted to apply for funds to improve the cricket pavilion there. The Friends have to object to this, as once again it is the issuing of leases for parts of the park. Once again it puts charitable parkland at risk. The Charity Subcommittee agreed to postpone the decision until the Friends have had the opportunity to meet with the cricket group. Of course the Friends have absolutely no objection to the group playing cricket in Graves Park, in fact we welcome it, however, we do not accept that the land has to be leased and from what we have heard from the group themselves, they do not want a lease, just a licence to play cricket there. The Friends will continue to follow this up, with a view to protecting yet more parkland from disposal. We hope to meet with the group in the near future.

The Friends will continue to make Freedom of Information requests and we will continue to inform the Charity Commission of the activities of the trustee, until we are able to reach a position where the parkland is safe.

"Restoration" of the Pack Horse Bridge

Since last year, the Pack Horse Bridge has been properly restored.

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

AGM 2024 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Retirement from the Committee of Ernest Brewin

One of our stalwart supporters and long serving committee members, Ernest Brewin, is standing down from the committee, after many years of dedicated service to the Friends of Graves Park. He has been a valued and important member of our committee for so many years, organising the volunteers in the restoration and maintenance of Chantreyland Meadow and Arboretum, as well as using his considerable expertise to draw up plans for each section, as the need arises. Ernest will continue as a member of the Friends and will continue with his work in Chantreyland Meadow and Arboretum. His valued wisdom on the committee will be much missed, although I am sure we will still be able to ask him for advice (and a cup of tea!) whenever needed in the future. Thank you Ernest, for your hard work, dedication and support over the years.

There are many opportunities for any of you who have skills or an interest in local history, horticulture/gardening, trees, wildlife, applying for grants or campaigning (or any other skills or interests you think might help us). We desperately need members to join our committee (we really need a secretary) or offer your services as a volunteer. Please do get in touch if you think you can help us.

Finally, yet again thank you to all our members, for the continued support, the generous donations and the campaigning over the past 12 months. We are still one of the largest friends' groups in Sheffield. We will continue to work towards ensuring that Graves Park is protected permanently for the benefit of all the citizens of Sheffield.

Caroline D. Dewar
27th August 2024

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

AGM TREASURER'S REPORT

Financially speaking, the year to March 2024 was dominated by the Finding Lost Norton Park: Digging Deeper for All project which was supported by a grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund. Awarded in December 2022, the grant totalled £142,770 with Friends of Graves Park contributing another £5000. We claim the money in stages and it passes through our accounts as we pay for the corresponding project costs.

Our bank account also holds money for the restoration of the Rose Garden Café. These donations are ring-fenced for the café restoration.

At the end of the financial year our bank account stands at £25,647, of which £9,888 is ring-fenced for the Rose Garden Café. £64,372 of National Lottery Heritage Fund grant has been received to the end of the financial year.

Our long-standing treasurer Barbara Greatorex retired from the treasurer position this year but is still an active trustee. I'd like to thank Barbara for her many years of carefully managing the finances.

As we move into the new financial year we have transitioned to electronic banking which will make everything a bit simpler and easier for everyone.

Thanks are due to Peter Shield for preparing the audited accounts.

Lee Baxter
Treasurer, Friends of Graves Park

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK**

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above named charity (registered no. 1080407) for the year ended 31 March 2024, set out on pages 5 to 7.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

I report in respect of my examination of The Trustees' accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiners Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- (3) the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give 'a true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

.....
Peter Shield

.....
Date

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024


	<u>Note</u>	<u>Unres- tricted Funds</u>	<u>Desig- nated Funds</u>	<u>Res- tricted Funds</u>	<u>Total 2024</u>	<u>Total 2023</u>
		£	£	£	£	£
<u>Income and Endowments</u>						
Membership fees and donations		2,974			2,974	4,448
Gift Aid		628			628	503
Just Giving		22		2,369	2,391	5,364
Easy Fundraising/Amazon/Paypal		65			65	105
Rose Garden Cafe fundraiser		500			500	-
National Lottery Heritage Fund	2	-	142,770		142,770	-
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		<u>4,189</u>	<u>142,770</u>	<u>2,369</u>	<u>149,328</u>	<u>10,420</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>						
Rose Garden Café surveyor and feasibility		210			210	3,420
Printing, postage and stationery		669			669	862
Insurance		191			191	191
Website		632			632	105
Meeting expenses		80			80	-
Just Giving		216			216	216
Sundries		127			127	65
National Lottery Heritage Fund	2	-	142,770		142,770	-
Total Expenditure		<u>2,125</u>	<u>142,770</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>144,895</u>	<u>4,859</u>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		2,064	-	2,369	4,433	5,561
Fund balances brought forward		13,695	-	7,519	21,214	15,653
FUND BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD		<u>15,759</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,888</u>	<u>25,647</u>	<u>21,214</u>

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

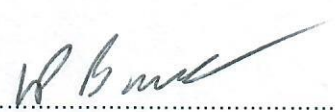
	<u>NOTE</u>	<u>2024</u>		<u>2023</u>	
		£	£	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank		22,319		21,214	
Debtor	2	78,398		-	
		<u>100,717</u>		<u>21,214</u>	
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditor	2	<u>75,070</u>		-	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			25,647		21,214
TOTAL ASSETS			<u>25,647</u>		<u>21,214</u>
FINANCED BY:					
Unrestricted Funds			15,759		13,695
Designated Funds	2		-		-
Restricted Funds - Rose Garden Café	3		9,888		7,519
			<u>25,647</u>		<u>21,214</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:



 Signed - Trustee

Caroline Dewar - Chairman



 Signed - Trustee

Lee Baxter - Treasurer

2nd September 2024

 Date

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of preparation and assessment of going concern

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (FRS102) and the Financial reporting Standard (FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees have a reasonable expectation the Trust has adequate reserves to continue in operation existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis in the preparation of the accounts.

b) Income Recognition

Income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations are recognised when they are received.

c) Expenditure Recognition

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Grants are recognised when they are approved and the intention has been communicated to the recipient.

2 DESIGNATED FUND NATIONAL LOTTERY HERITAGE FUND

Debtor - Deferred income	£78,398
Creditor - Deferrred expenditure	£75,070

The charity has been awarded a National Lottery Heritage Fund grant of £142,770, to run the project "Finding Lost Norton Park: Digging Deeper for All":exploring the history, heritage, ecology, archaeology and local memories of Graves Park. As at the balance sheet date £64,372 has been received with a further £78,398 to be received. Grant money expended so far amounts to £67,770, with a further £75,070 expected to be spent.

The project is scheduled to continue until the end of September 2024.

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

3 RESTRICTED FUND ROSE GARDEN CAFÉ

The purpose of this fund is to provide resources to facilitate the restoration of the Rose Garder Café to its former glory.

The Friends of Graves Park are working in a Partnership with the Save the Rose Garden Café Group and Sheffield City Council, to restore and fully reopen the café. The Friends have agree to allow funds within our bank account for this restoration.