

Company registration number: 03908975

Charity registration number: 1080567

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

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The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity number:	1080567
Company number:	03908975
Registered Office:	C/O Irvin Mitchell LLP Belmont House Station Way Crawley West Sussex RG10 1JA
Auditors	UHY Ross Brooke Suite I Windrush Court Abingdon Business Park Abingdon OX14 1SY
Bankers	National Westminster Bank 30 Market Place Newbury Berks RG14 5AJ
Solicitors	Irwin Mitchell Group Mercantile House 18 London Road Newbury Berks RG14 1JX
Principal Office	Corn Exchange Newbury Market Place Newbury Berkshire RG14 5BD
Chief Executive Officer	J Jhundoo-Evans (appointed 1/7/23) K Griffiths (resigned 29/6/23)
Secretary	Irwin Mitchell Secretaries Limited

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Reference and Administrative Details

Key management personnel The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust: Trustees and Directors

The Trustees, most of whom who are also directors for the purposes of company law, who served during the year, together with subsequent appointments were:

Earl G R O Carnarvon

L Hinchliffe (resigned 20/9/24)

K Bahia

R C Holland (Chairman)

R Mckinlay

R J E Hayes

J G Beck (deceased February 24)

R Constable

L Butcher (appointed 30/1/24)

J Whatsize (appointed 7/2/24)

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Trustees' Report

The trustees are pleased to present their annual directors' report together with the consolidated financial statements of the charity and its subsidiary for the year ending 31 March 2024 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and 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 1 January 2019).

Our Purpose and Activities for the Public Benefit

Since the charity was formed in 2000, the Trust's responsibilities and ambitions have grown considerably. We manage three key spaces: the Corn Exchange which includes a 400 seat auditorium and 40 seat independent cinema and is home to an inspiring live events programme and a world-class outdoor performance programme; our Learning Centre, home to a flourishing participation programme, provides a wide range of social, creative and inclusive opportunities, with specific projects for young people, schools, under 5s and over 55s; and 101 Outdoor Arts - National Centre for Arts in Public Space, our unique artist development and creation centre supports the production of high quality outdoor work.

Our Charitable Objective

The education of the public in the Arts in West Berkshire and the surrounding districts

The Trustee's mission, vision and values for the Trust are as follows:

Our Mission (what we do)

Offer high quality arts and entertainment to enhance the life of the community, continually providing new and enriching experiences for everyone.

Our Vision (what we want to be)

More than just a theatre... the Corn Exchange is a leading creative arts organisation with two iconic venues. We are passionate about inspiring audiences, connecting with the community and presenting an exciting programme of live performance, film, visual arts and outdoor events.

Shaping our Vision (three key themes)

Centre for Excellence: *Enable excellence at every opportunity*

- Our role as artistic leader is to provide examples of what is excellent and to encourage and enable this work to thrive in West Berkshire and the surrounding district
- To continue to play a key role in providing inspiration for both artists and audiences

Creative Communities: *Provide access points and encourage involvement from our entire community*

- Deliver a programme of artistic opportunities in more places, incorporating more artforms and engaging with more people
- Develop and provide more quality opportunities for local people to participate in cultural activities within their own community

Custodian: *Safeguard our long-term sustainability*

- Ensure that the organisation and its buildings are valued by the people of West Berkshire and the surrounding district
- Maximise income generated from the five income streams at every opportunity in order to ensure we can deliver on our vision
- Invest in staff and infrastructure to enable continued success and growth

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Trustees' Report

Core values (the way the Trust works)

The Trust aims to be a centre for artistic excellence that cares about providing a high quality experience for its audiences, artists and employees. We encourage involvement in the creative arts from our entire community, welcoming everyone and inspiring future generations. By forging strong relationships with our audiences and stakeholders and being efficient in the operation of the business, we are committed to safeguarding the long-term sustainability of the organisation.

In doing this the Trust will hold true to the following values

- We are passionate about the arts
- We aim for excellence
- We put our customers first
- We work collaboratively
- We respect and include everyone
- We seek out better ways to do things

We are passionate about the arts: We believe wholeheartedly in what we do, and seek to share our enthusiasm with others; inspiring future generations.

We aim for excellence: We always try to exceed expectations and actively pursue success. We are proud of our reputation and we want to build it together.

We put our customers first: Customers are our audiences, participants, artists and stakeholders and we work hard to see things from their point of view and improve their experience of the Corn Exchange and the breadth of our activities.

We work collaboratively: We forge relationships with others in order to succeed. We work as a team and are adaptable, making it easy for our colleagues, partners and communities to work with us.

We respect and include everyone: We will treat everyone we encounter with respect and understanding; actively seeking out opportunities to be more inclusive and work with underrepresented communities. We want everyone to be able to participate in cultural activities.

We seek out better ways to do things: This means we work hard to get the best possible value out of everything we do, and actively look for examples of best practice both inside and outside our organisation.

These are the visions and values that shape the Trust's annual activities, and our role as a leading creative arts organisation in West Berkshire. The Trustees remain convinced that the benefits of an active involvement in high quality arts activities are vital to society and that our core annual activity programme centres around the promotion and education of the public in the arts.

The Trust expects the staff and volunteers to demonstrate a commitment to these values and use them in their decision making and actions every day, for the benefit of its audiences, artists, stakeholders, and fellow employees.

In shaping the objectives and vision, the Trustees have considered the Charity Commissions guidance on public benefit, including the guidance on public benefit and fee charging. The theatre relies on grants and income from fees and charges to cover its operating costs. In setting the level of fees, charges and concessions, the Trustees give careful consideration to the accessibility of its activities for those on low incomes and ensure a range of prices and activities as well as bursaries and free events.

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Trustees' Report

Review of activities during the year

We have worked hard to maintain positive momentum, understand what our audiences want, make changes and build on successes. Our attendance figures for 2023/24 sit at over 153,647 engagements, which compares hugely favourably with our highest ever engagement levels in 2019/20 (128,000). In particular attendance at ticketed live events saw attendances of 106,534, 19,000 of which were visitors to the Corn Exchange over the Summer for Luke Jerram's Museum of the Moon installation. Our L& P activities saw 27,460 engagements. Our 101 Outdoor Arts Centre supported over 387 artists through residency opportunities and a further 453 through a programme of training, network events and opportunities for work.

In all, a tremendous achievement and we believe a result of our efforts to try and reach as many people as possible through an exciting and varied programme of activities and services.

Highlights have included:

- A successful first year of our new Arts Council NPO activity plan
- Launching our fundraising campaign for our redevelopment of the Old Library into a new arts and wellbeing hub and permanent home for our engagement activity
- Presenting L'homme Debout's *Mo and the red ribbon*, a giant puppet promenade telling the story of a refugee child and digital light show performance
- Our annual community lantern procession which saw us support the creation of over 1200 traditional candlelit willow lanterns, and a procession through the town centre
- Our collaboration with Newbury BID to present a 3 week festival of the moon, with the focal point being Luke Jerram's Museum of the Moon installation in the Corn Exchange auditorium throughout August
- The continuation and growth our 'seasonal socials' brand which this year introduced monthly open mic nights, music on the terrace and vinyl evenings in response to a demand for more music activities.
- Supporting 840 artists across the 101 programme, including residencies, a symposia for 120 artists and producers on the theme of co-creation and the start of our Jerwood funded *Take it Outside* project to support new artists
- Introducing Creative Journalling, a new strand of arts and health work, which has been particularly well received by young people and delivered in an increasing number of schools and settings
- Delivering the third year of Ageing Creatively activity achieving 6735 engagements across our programme working in care homes and assisted living accommodation as well as rural locations across the District
- Also consultation and co creation of a programme of activity with and for the residents of two new strategic areas for rural engagement and introduction of new activities aimed at the male demographic in partnership with a local café
- Two young trainees successfully completed a 6 month paid placement as part of our Careers in the Arts initiative with The Watermill Theatre.
- A record number of members across our Youth theatres, with increasing numbers auditioning for the annual youth performance
- Over 1,000 members of our Membership scheme giving regularly to support the work we do
- Exceeding the fundraising target for the second year of our panto pay-it-forward scheme, providing 403 tickets to those nominated by their schools, community groups and social workers
- Successful applications to 22 trusts and foundations, which is a 65% success rate
- Developing new relationships with Syder Foundation and Backstage Trust
- Record sales of £394,000 for our 2023 pantomime, *Beauty and the Beast*

The work of the Trust is only possible thanks to its team of dedicated volunteers who have provided over 19773 volunteer hours for the Trust, supporting the wide-ranging activities of the charity, assisting with the operational running of the Corn Exchange, supporting our engagement activities and the outdoor programme. Working with our volunteers enhances our audiences experience, enables longer opening hours and lower staff costs than would otherwise be the case and helps deepen our connection to the community we serve. Volunteers sign a volunteer agreement on joining and are managed by staff members, receiving safety and operational training. The contribution made by the volunteers to the organisation goes well beyond pure figures, but this year the estimated financial value amounts to in excess of £226,000.

In the year the Trust also continued its support of The Base charity. This visual art and craft venue on Greenham Business Park presents the highest quality touring exhibitions, supports 8 visual arts and craft makers with studios as well as a workshop space for participatory workshops. The Trust supports The Base with expertise in curation and marketing support, enabling this new organisation to operate more efficiently.

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Trustees' Report

Financial Review

The 2023/24 financial year saw the organisation return to more normal levels of activity; although the cost of living crises did impact on booking patterns, repeat sales and attendance at points in the year.

The Trust continues to enjoy a strong relationship with Greenham Trust, who support three distinct strands of the charity's activities as a core funder; the Corn Exchange, Learning Centre and 101 & the outdoor programmes. Additionally, they also fund a joint project between the Corn Exchange and the Watermill Theatre aimed at supporting young people to develop transferable skills and awareness of opportunities provided by the creative industries.

We have also received a variety of smaller grants from trusts and foundations to support the work of our Learning and Participation programme and together with successful fundraising campaigns to maintain our support from the local community to help ensure the survival and resilience of the organisation.

The Trust also receives funding as an Arts Council England, National Portfolio Organisation with funding now secured at £396,690 per year until March 2026.

Income £2,916,194 was higher than in 2022/23 with expenditure at £2,693,336. The Trust has made an operating profit of £222,858 before gains/(losses) on the defined pension scheme. Of the £222,858 net income prior to gains/(losses) on the defined pension scheme, £54,572 relates to operating surplus and £153,103 is income for the redevelopment of the Old Library, for which we will see the associated works and expenditure in 2024/2025 and 2025/2026 Profit and Loss.

Contributing factors to the operating surplus were greater sales across the live and learning programmes, increased hires and ancillary spending particularly in the latter half of the year and consistency of regular giving from our loyal companion members. With that said, overheads including maintenance, insurance and wages continued to significantly challenge the budgets, demonstrating the agility of the team to respond to the market and careful management of income and spend in order to reach a surplus position.

The cultural arts programme delivered at the centre managed by Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust is operated by Corn Exchange (Newbury) Production Ltd. During the year Corn Exchange (Newbury) Production Ltd was recharged £1,072,030 for labour costs and under the cost sharing agreement entered into in July 2006. Including this, the total income for the Trust and Production Ltd was £2,916,194

Complying with FRS17 means reporting any liability on the defined benefit pension schemes in the annual accounts. Last year's pension fund deficit showed a liability of £78,000, this was further decreased this year to £32,000, for further details see note 20.

Reserves Policy

The Corn Exchange holds reserves to cover unforeseen circumstances, unplanned emergency repairs and other exceptional expenditure. They enable us to bridge the gap between the spending and receiving of resources, and also ensure that we can respond to unexpected alterations in income. The Trustees consider £430,000 the minimum level of reserves, equating to 3 months operational costs as advised by The Charities Commission. A future target would be the more ideal level of £860,000 equating to 6 months operating costs. This figure has been calculated by considering the charity's income, its potential vulnerability to a decline in particular funding sources, the impact of the general economic situation, and also considers a timeframe to enable the Trust to adjust its business model in the event of a major change in its funding levels.

As at 31 March 2024, the unrestricted funds are £523,816 (2023: £375,545) after deducting this year's pension liability valuation of £32,000.

Given the significant fluctuation in the pension liability in recent years, and to minimise risk to the Trust's going concern, the Trustees have chosen to calculate an average liability of the last 6 years to create a pension reserve of £454,500.

Trustees have therefore assumed a £101,316 free unrestricted general fund this year: which excludes the restricted income funds of £376,011, current designated funds of £681,561 and a pension reserve of £454,500, until such time the pension liability is crystallised.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds that are earmarked (designated) for essential future spending to fund repairs, refurbishment, infrastructure and capital investment of its buildings. With the approval of the Trustees, the Executive team prioritise projects to ensure the organisation maintains a high level of customer and performer experience, whilst also ensuring staff are provided with the appropriate tools to successfully deliver the activities of the organisation. It is expected that repairs and improvements will be an on-going financial need, particularly given the age of the Corn Exchange building.

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Trustees' Report

Although reserves are below Trustee's long-term aspirations, with net current assets of £1,614,443 the balance sheet remains strong. Given the continued support of our key funders (Greenham Trust and Arts Council England) the Trustees consider the Trust to be a sound commercial concern with exciting ambitions for the future. The Trust aspires to build the reserves through the development of small annual surpluses (year on year) generated via earned income sales and the growth of sale of tickets to work that is programmed and produced at the Corn Exchange

Plans for Future Periods

The next year holds a number of exciting opportunities for the Trust, in particular the ongoing redevelopment of Newbury's Old Library, into a creative wellbeing hub. As well as becoming the permanent home for our learning and wellbeing focused activities, the transformation will include a new studio theatre – broadening the range of work we are able to present and the artists we are able to support. This sustainable reuse of an existing heritage building continues our partnership with Greenham Trust, who have purchased the building, providing us with a 25 year lease; securing our business model for the future and transforming the space for cultural and community use.

Alongside this major capital project, our key priorities for the year ahead include

- Completion of a diverse fundraising campaign to support the redevelopment of the Old Library, with plans well underway for opening in Spring 2025
- A revised audience development plan, with a focus on new visitor/audience groups
- 101 Outdoor Arts' ten year anniversary celebrations with two major events: a free three day event *Ablaze* and an industry visioning symposia, imagining the next 10 years of Outdoor Arts
- Establishing links with key partners and exploring ways to progress our Arts & Health work across the District increasing our engagement with the hardest to reach groups
- Re-developing our offer to schools and establishing lapsed or new connections to the local education sector
- Working closely with our staff, to review the last few years and through a staff survey gather feedback on working with the Corn Exchange, what we do, how we do it
- Continuing with our focus on EDIB Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging across our training plan and as a considered part of all of our work
- Increasing our work with harder to reach young people focused on improving employability prospects and life chances and developing resilience through tailored projects in partnership with support organisations
- Undertaking an energy assessment to inform our plans for progressing our sustainability and green ambitions
- Reviewing our methods for evaluation of activity and implement a shared approach, enabling us to align in how we talk about our social impact as an organisation
- Reimagining our artistic vision with a particular focus on programming more dance and drama shows and building these audiences

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust is a registered charity (registered number 1080567) limited by guarantee. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association incorporated 13 January 2000 as amended 20 April 2000.

Appointment of Trustees

The directors of the charitable company ("the Trust") are trustees for the purpose of company law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees. As set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Board of the Trust comprises of no less than five and no more than fifteen Trustees. Nominations are put to the Trust and membership is determined against the requirements of a role profile, the policy on corporate governance and the needs of the Trust on a strictly equal opportunities basis. Each Trustee will be appointed for a period of three years. Since West Berkshire Council stopped providing core funding for the Trust's activities in 2018, there is no longer an obligation for one of the Trustees to provide WBC representation, however the Trust continues to offer representation on the Board to J Beck who has represented the local authority since the building was refurbished over 20 years ago.

Trustee Induction and Training

New Trustees meet with the Chair and Director who provide them with a written Trustee Induction Pack and briefs them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the board and its decision making processes as well as the Trust's objectives, strategic plan and recent financial performance. During this meeting they can meet key employees and other Trustees and are invited to witness and participate in administering the Trust. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where it will help facilitate the undertaking of their role.

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Trustees' Report

Organisation

The day-to-day operation of the Trust's affairs is delegated to the Director which is a Board appointed position. The Director works with an Executive team of four and a wider management team of seven. Financial matters are reported on a quarterly basis to a finance sub-committee that includes the Chairman of the Trust. Strategic and policy matters are referred to the full Board at quarterly Trustee's meetings, where they also receive reports on attendances, future programme plans, personnel, finance, health and safety issues, all Arts Council reporting requirements and any other matters arising. Four such meetings were held in the year ending 31st March 2024 in addition to the AGM in November.

The Trustees would like to formally recognise the continuing efforts and dedication of both staff and volunteers at the Trust.

Related Parties

The Trust has a very close association with both Arts Council England and Greenham Trust who provide funding to enable the Trust to carry out its charitable objectives. A summary regarding transactions with them, and other related parties, is set out within the notes to the financial statements.

The charity's wholly owned subsidiary, Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trading Company was established to operate the commercial bars and conferencing facilities at The Corn Exchange. The Trading Company Gift Aids its profits to the charity. (see note 7 in the accounts).

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Productions Limited was incorporated to independently operate the ticketing and producing aspects of the organisation's arts programme and is non-profit making.

Pay policy for senior staff

The strategic management of the organisation is delegated by the board of directors, who are the Trust's Trustees, to the executive management team comprising of the Director, Jessica Jhundoo-Evans; Head of Technical and Operations, Guy Dickens; Head of Programme and Audiences, Gemma Twiselton; Head of 101, Danielle Corbishley; and Head of Development, Ruth Stillman. All Trustees give their time freely and no Trustee received remuneration in the year. Details of Trustees' expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in note 11 to the accounts.

Pay is reviewed annually and the Trustees make any increases that are possible each year on the basis of the financial health of the organisation and future budgets and forecasts. In view of the nature of the charity, the Trustees benchmark against pay levels in other provincial arts centres of a similar size.

Risk Management

The Trustees review the major risks on an annual basis and this is further delegated to the Finance Sub-committee to review on a quarterly basis. They review the risks and ensure that systems and procedures are established to mitigate any risks identified as part of the organisation's strategic planning process.

This work has identified that financial sustainability remains biggest risk for the charity; this is an ongoing concern with attendance likely to be affected for some time as a result of consumer confidence, the cost of living crisis affecting ancillary spending and fundraising efforts alongside soaring utility and overhead costs. Additional risks also revolve around the resources (both human and financial) required to deliver the Old Library capital project.

A key element in the management of financial risk is a regular review of available liquid funds to settle debts as they fall due, regular liaison with the bank, and active management of trade debtors and creditors balances to ensure sufficient working capital by the Trust and its subsidiary company. In addition, the Director ensures regular communication with key stakeholders, Greenham Trust and Arts Council England.

Attention is also given to non-financial risks. Staff recruitment and retention is an identified risk, given limited salary budgets, ensuring greater focus on staff wellbeing, satisfaction and adaptations including hybrid and flexible working practice. Additionally, risks arising from fire, health and safety of artists and audience, management of performing rights and food hygiene are all taken into consideration. These risks are managed by ensuring accreditation is up to date, having robust policies and procedures in place, and regular awareness training for staff working in these operational areas.

The Trustees are satisfied that there are adequate systems in place to mitigate financial and non-financial risks in the current circumstances.

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Trustees' Report

Trustees Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors of Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice)

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in 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 statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 1993 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

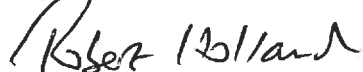
In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditor is unaware; and
- The Trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

Following the Annual General Meeting the Trust UHY Ross Brooke were appointed by the Trustees to undertake the audit for 2024/25.

By order of the board of Trustees



R C Holland

Trustee

Date: 13 November 2024

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheets and Statements of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report, which includes the Directors' Report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Directors' Report included within the Trustees' Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report included within the Trustees' Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement, the charity trustees (who are also the directors of the Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of a trustees' annual report and financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The specific procedures for this engagement and the extent to which these are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We have considered:

- the nature of the charity and sector, control environment and operating performance;
- the charity's own assessment, including assessments made by key management, of the risks that irregularities may occur either as a result of fraud or error;
- any matters we identified having reviewed the charity's policies and procedures relating to:
 - identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
 - detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
 - the internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- the matters discussed amongst the audit engagement team.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the organisation for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud in the areas in which management is required to exercise significant judgement, such as the disclosure of adjusting items. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override.

We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context were the Companies Act, Charities Act and tax legislation.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Caroline Webster (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of UHY Ross Brooke, Statutory Auditor

Suite I Windrush Court
Abingdon Business Park
Abingdon
Oxfordshire
OX14 1SY

Date:

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust
Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities
(including Consolidated Income and Expenditure account)
for year ending 31 March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Income:						
Donations and grants	4	1,000,848	29,500	372,549	1,402,897	910,615
<i>Income from charitable activities:</i>						
Operation of theatre and art centre	5	1,190,283	-	-	1,190,283	1,333,478
<i>Income from other trading activities:</i>						
Commercial trading operations	7	296,723	-	-	296,723	238,352
Investment income	6	26,291	-	-	26,291	5,198
Total income		2,514,145	29,500	372,549	2,916,194	2,487,643
Expenditure:						
<i>Cost of generating funds:</i>						
Commercial trading operations	7	136,938	-	-	136,938	107,163
<i>Charitable activities:</i>						
Operation of theatre and arts centre	7	2,322,635	51,122	182,641	2,556,398	2,325,032
Total expenditure		2,459,573	51,122	182,641	2,693,336	2,432,195
Net income / (expenditure) before investment gains / (losses)	3	54,572	(21,622)	189,908	222,858	55,448
Transfers between funds	21	(30,000)	30,000	-	-	-
Other recognised gains/losses: Gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension scheme	20	46,000	-	-	46,000	577,000
Net income / (expenditure) and net movement in funds for the year		70,572	8,378	189,908	268,858	632,448
Reconciliation of funds						
Total Funds brought forward		813,469	673,183	186,103	1,672,755	1,040,307
Total funds carried forward		884,041	681,561	376,011	1,941,613	1,672,755

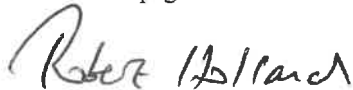
The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

**The Corn Exchange
(Newbury) Trust
Consolidated and Trust
Balance Sheets
as at 31 March 2024**

	Note	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	Trust 2024 £	Trust 2023 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13	360,225	362,309	351,412	352,654
Investments	14	-	-	2	2
Total Fixed Assets		360,225	362,309	351,414	352,656
Current assets					
Stock	15	11,599	7,569	-	-
Debtors	16	380,532	94,128	378,926	92,840
Cash at bank and in hand		1,920,580	1,751,579	1,935,062	1,761,226
Total Current Assets		2,312,711	1,853,276	2,313,988	1,854,066
Liabilities					
Creditors falling due within one year	17	(698,268)	(459,216)	(689,543)	(450,450)
Net Current assets		1,614,443	1,394,060	1,624,445	1,403,616
Creditors falling due after one year	17	(1,055)	(5,614)	(1,055)	(5,614)
Net assets excluding pension liability		1,973,613	1,750,755	1,974,804	1,750,658
Pension scheme liability	20	(32,000)	(78,000)	(32,000)	(78,000)
Net assets including pension liability		1,941,613	1,672,755	1,942,804	1,672,658
The funds of the charity:					
Unrestricted income funds	21	916,041	891,469	917,232	891,372
Designated funds	21	681,561	673,183	681,561	673,183
Restricted income funds	21	376,011	186,103	376,011	186,103
Pension fund surplus/(deficit)		(32,000)	(78,000)	(32,000)	(78,000)
Total charity funds		1,941,613	1,672,755	1,942,804	1,672,658

The trustees have prepared group accounts in accordance with section 398 of the Companies Act 2006 and section 138 of the Charities Act 2011. These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the company.

The notes at pages 16 to 34 form part of these accounts



R C Holland, Trustee on behalf of the Board of Trustees

Approved by the Trustees on: 13 November 2024

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust
Statement of Cash Flows and Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows for year
ending 31 March 2024

	Note	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	Trust 2024 £	Trust 2023 £
Cash used in operating activities	24	192,084	126,129	195,937	123,730
Cash flows from investing activities					
Interest income		26,291	5,198	26,291	5,198
Loss on fixed asset disposal		-	-	-	-
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(45,417)	(26,924)	(44,435)	(8,110)
Cash provided by (used in) investing activities		(19,126)	(21,726)	(18,144)	(2,912)
Cash flows from financing activities					
Proceeds/(repayment) of long-term borrowings		(3,957)	(6,660)	(3,957)	(6,660)
Cash used in financing activities		(3,957)	(6,660)	(3,957)	(6,660)
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year		169,001	97,745	173,836	114,158
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		1,751,579	1,653,834	1,761,226	1,647,068
Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		1,920,580	1,751,579	1,935,062	1,761,226

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1 Accounting Policies

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is C/O Irwin Mitchell LLP, Riverside East, 2 Millsands, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, S3 8DT.

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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) (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The financial statements are prepared in Sterling, which is the function currency of the company.

b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trust reported a surplus of £222,858 before the gain on the pension scheme for the year, the financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

At the time of approving these financial statements, Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust considers performance to have returned to levels seen prior to the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic. The arts industry more widely continues to navigate the long term effects of the macroeconomic issue, impacted by the cost of living crisis, and has seen significant changes in the way society consumes arts and culture and the benefits people attribute to their engagement. We have worked hard to understand what our audiences want, maintain positive momentum, make changes and build on successes

Some areas of the arts continue to see slower sales, including film, dance and drama, however, a well managed and balanced programme ensures we can continue to offer a broad range of activity appealing to a wide demographic, as well as looking at opportunities which diversify income stream, such as external hires, social activities, partnership activities and commissioning out services.

At the time of reporting, we have launched a capital fundraising campaign to raise funds to redevelop the Old Library in Newbury, as a permanent and larger space for our participation activities and a small studio theatre space, where we hope to grow our programme and reach.

c) Group financial statements

The financial statements consolidate the results of the charity and its wholly owned subsidiary, The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trading Limited on a line-by-line basis. A separate Statement of Financial Activities and Income and Expenditure Account for the charity has not been presented because the Trust has taken advantage of the exemption afforded by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

d) Income

Income including donations, gifts, legacies, grants and donated assets that provide core funding or are of a general nature, are recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions that must be met before the Trust has unconditional entitlement.

Donated assets are valued by reference to their replacement value as stated by the donor or an independent third party.

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The Trusts leases the Corn Exchange building from West Berkshire Council on a 99 year lease at a peppercorn rent payable under the terms of the lease. No value has been recognised in incoming resources in relation to this lease as the possible market value cannot be ascertained or estimated.

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

Income from charitable activities, which includes income received under contract or where entitlement to grant fund is subject to specific conditions, is recognised as earned (as the related goods or services are provided). Grant income included in this category provides funding to support performance activities and is recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient accuracy.

Income is deferred when:

- Admission fees or performance related grants are received in advance of the performances or event to which they relate.

e) Volunteers and donated services and facilities

The value of services provided by volunteers is not incorporated into these accounts. Further details of the contribution made by volunteers can be found in the Trustees' annual report. Where services are provided to the Trust as a donation that would normally be purchased from other suppliers, this contribution is included in the accounts at an estimate based on the value of the contribution to the Trust.

f) Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

g) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for areas of the Trust's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the Trust.

h) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred. Contractual arrangements and performance related grants are recognised as goods or services are supplied. Other grant payments are recognised when a constructive obligation arises that results in the payment being unavoidable. Irrecoverable VAT is included within the associated cost.

Costs of generating funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities include expenditure directly and indirectly associated with the staging of concerts, stage productions, showing films, art exhibitions and educational programmes and include both the direct costs and support costs relating to these activities.

Governance costs include those incurred in the governance of the Trust and its assets and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

i) Allocation of support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

j) Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases, including any lease incentives received, are charged to income on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease.

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

k) Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on as follows:

Asset Category	Annual rate
Plant and machinery	10% to 20% straight line
Fixtures, fittings and office equipment	5% to 25% straight line
Piano	20% reducing balance
Computer equipment	33% straight line

l) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

m) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

n) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount.

o) Financial instruments

The trust only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

p) Pensions

The Trust participates in a defined benefit scheme. Pension costs are assessed in accordance with actuarial advice and based on the most recent actuarial valuation of the scheme. These costs are accounted for on the basis of charging the cost of providing pensions over the period during which the Trust benefits from the employees' services. Any resulting pension asset or liability is fully provided for in the accounts.

2 Legal status of the Trust

The Trust is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the charity.

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

3 Financial Performance of the charity

The consolidated statement of financial activities includes the results of the charity's wholly owned subsidiary which is the trading body of the group.

The summary financial performance of the charity alone is:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Income	2,780,544	2,380,377
Expenditure on charitable activities	(2,556,398)	(2,325,032)
Gains/(loss) on pension scheme	46,000	577,000
Net income	270,146	632,345
 Total funds brought forward	 1,672,658	 1,040,308
Total funds carried forward	1,942,804	1,672,658

Represented by:

Restricted income funds	376,011	186,103
Unrestricted income funds	1,566,793	1,486,555
	1,942,804	1,672,658

Of the £222,858 net income prior to gains/(losses) on the defined pension scheme £54,572 relates to operating surplus and £153,103 is income for the redevelopment of the Old Library, for which we will see the associated works and expenditure in 2024/2025 and 2025/2026 Profit and Loss.

4 Income from donations and grants

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations	272,463	156,746
Membership	21,027	22,231
Grants	1,109,407	731,638
	1,402,897	910,615

The income from donations and grants was £1,402,897 (2023: £910,615) of which £1,000,848 was unrestricted (2023: £693,408) and £402,049 restricted (2023: £217,207).

5 Income from charitable activities

	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£	2024 £	2023 £
Income from films	-	90,849	90,849	96,254
Performance grants and sponsorships	-	534,878	534,878	641,423
Rent, and costs recharged	-	366,250	366,250	442,711
Sales commissions	-	104,191	104,191	79,363
Other related income	-	94,115	94,115	73,727
 Total income from charitable activities	 -	 1,190,283	 1,190,283	 1,333,478

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

6 Investment income

All of the group's investment income of £26,291 (2023: £5,198) arises from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts.

7 Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Live programme costs	-	-	28,919	28,919	7,151
Film costs	-	-	50,658	50,658	52,382
Specific projects – productions	-	-	140,641	140,641	118,426
Specific projects - other	-	182,641	212,540	395,181	398,598
Marketing and advertising	-	-	101,978	101,978	107,240
Staff costs	-	-	1,162,870	1,162,870	1,067,450
Premises costs	51,122	-	360,164	411,286	193,560
Repairs and renewals	-	-	70,010	70,010	97,198
General overheads	-	-	110,765	110,765	156,658
Depreciation	-	-	45,679	45,679	50,239
Support costs (see note 8)	-	-	38,411	38,411	76,130
	51,122	182,641	2,322,635	2,556,398	2,325,032

The summary financial performance of the subsidiary alone is:

	2024 £	2023 £
Turnover	296,723	238,352
Cost of sales and administrative expenses	(136,938)	(107,163)
Amount gifted to the Trust	(161,073)	(131,087)
Net profit/(loss) retained	(1,288)	102

The assets and liabilities of the subsidiary were:

Fixed assets	8,814	9,655
Current assets	13,245	8,976
Current liabilities	(23,243)	(18,527)
Total net assets	(1,184)	104
Aggregate share capital and reserves	(1,184)	104

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

8 Analysis of governance and support costs

The Trust initially identifies the costs of its support functions. It then identifies those costs which relate to the governance function. Refer to the table below for the basis for apportionment and the analysis of support and governance costs.

	Basis of apportionment	General support £	Governance function £	Total £
Audit and accountancy fees	Governance	-	4,255	4,255
Professional fees	Governance	-	3,660	3,660
Interest and charges	General support	30,496	-	30,496
Total		30,496	7,915	38,411

9 Net income/(expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2024 £	2023 £
Depreciation	47,501	50,669
Auditor's remuneration:		
Audit fees	12,500	12,000

10 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

	2024 £	2023 £
Salaries and wages	1,042,336	961,304
Social security costs	74,557	70,293
Pension costs	35,633	31,451
Other staff costs	10,344	4,402
	1,162,870	1,067,450

No employees had employee benefits (2023: £nil). Pension costs are allocated to activities in proportion to the related staffing costs incurred and are wholly charged to unrestricted funds.

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the Trust or its subsidiary in the year (2023: £nil) neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2023: £nil) other than those disclosed in note 11. No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2023: £nil).

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	2024 No	2023 No
Concert and stage performers	9	9
Management	5	4
Administration	11	8
Marketing	4	4
Front of House	12	14
Community and Arts	11	9
	<hr/> 52	<hr/> 48

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £234,739 (2023: £253,583).

11 Related party transactions

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Productions Limited is a company limited by guarantee that was incorporated to operate independently the cultural arts programme at the centre managed by the Trust.

Recharges to the company from the Trust include £364,558 (2023: £257,820) in respect of supply of labour for employees with joint contracts of employment and £13,539 (2023: £16,380) for other costs charged under a cost sharing agreement entered into in June 2006. At the balance sheet date the Trust was owed £155,584 (2023: £49,026) from this company.

At the balance sheet date the Trust held £250,504 (2023: £193,719) in respect of ticket income collected on behalf of the Corn Exchange (Newbury) Productions Limited. This amount is included in "Deferred Income" in the accounts.

The Base Greenham is a company limited by guarantee that was incorporated to operate independently the visual arts programme at the new location known as The Base.

Recharges to this company from the Trust include £2,241 (2023: £10,666) for costs paid by the Trust on behalf of the Base. At the balance sheet date the Trust was owed £4,456 (2023: £2,314) from this company.

The Trust has paid an agreed profit share of £nil (2023: £nil) at the end of March 2023 plus a commissioning fee of £nil (2023: £nil) to the Base as part of an ongoing partnership agreement. The Base has also recharged £618 (2023: £10,666) of costs to the Trust during the year.

At the balance sheet date the Trust held £5,091 (2023: £12,384) in respect of ticket income collected on behalf of the Base Greenham. This amount is included in the accounts.

12 Corporation Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

13 Tangible fixed assets – charity (also comprising that of the group)

	Plant & machinery, fixtures, fittings & equipment	Assets Bought with Funding	Capital Refurb Project	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost:				
As at 1 April 2023	633,177	256,001	284,887	1,174,065
Additions	45,417	-	-	45,417
Disposals	(55,630)	-	-	(55,630)
As at 31 March 2024	622,964	256,001	284,887	1,163,852
Depreciation:				
As at 1 April 2023	582,624	141,583	87,549	811,756
Charge for the year	18,450	18,160	10,891	47,501
Disposals	(55,630)	-	-	(55,630)
As at 31 March 2024	545,444	159,743	98,440	803,627
Net book value:				
As at 1 April 2023	50,553	114,418	197,338	362,309
As at 31 March 2024	77,520	96,258	186,447	360,225

14 Investments

Charity	Shares in subsidiary undertakings	Other investments	Total
	£	£	£
Cost:			
As at 1 April 2023	2	-	2
Movement	-	-	-
As at 31 March 2024	2	-	2
Group	Shares in subsidiary undertakings	Other investments	Total
	£	£	£
Cost:			
As at 1 April 2023	-	-	-
Movement	-	-	-
As at 31 March 2024	-	-	-

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trading Limited

The charity holds 2 ordinary shares of £1 each in its wholly owned trading subsidiary company The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trading Limited which is incorporated in the United Kingdom and undertakes the group's operation of café-bar facilities made available to theatre audiences, hirers of facilities and the general public. These are the only shares allotted, called up and fully paid. The activities and results of this company are summarised in note 7.

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

15 Stock

	Group		Trust	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Goods held for resale	11,599	7,569	-	-
	11,599	7,569	-	-

16 Debtors

	Group		Trust	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Trade debtors	173,588	60,698	173,200	60,968
Other debtors	155,417	1,411	155,058	123
Prepayments & accrued income	51,527	32,019	50,668	31,749
Amounts due from subsidiary undertaking	-	-	-	-
	380,532	94,128	378,926	92,840

17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Group		Trust	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	95,901	82,360	90,177	76,504
Other creditors & accruals	179,441	44,664	176,578	42,207
Deferred income (note 19)	418,788	328,175	418,670	327,722
Other loans	4,118	4,017	4,118	4,017
Taxation & social security	-	-	-	-
	698,268	459,216	689,543	450,450

Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Group		Trust	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Other loans	1,055	5,614	1,055	5,614
	1,055	5,614	1,055	5,614

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

18 Borrowings

	Trust 2024 £	Trust 2023 £
Repayable within 1 year	4,118	4,160
Repayable within 5 years	1,055	5,614
Repayable after 5 years	-	-
	5,173	9,774

Borrowings consist of £500 (2023: £500) for the upgrade of the box office and £5,173 (2023: £9,274) for the Front of House refurbishment. All loans are owed to Greenham Common Trust. Interest is charged at 2% above base for the box office loan, 4% for the cinema screen and Front of House refurbishment loan. In addition the Front of House loan agreement includes additional payments being made if The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trading Company Limited makes a gift aidable profit of more than £80,000, at which point 1.5% of any amount above £80,000 will be paid to Greenham Common Trust.

19 Deferred income

	Group £	Trust £
Balance as at 1 April 2023	328,150	327,696
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	(328,150)	(327,629)
Amount deferred in year	418,788	418,670
Balance as at 31 March 2024	418,788	418,670

20 Pension and other schemes

Defined benefit pension schemes

Pension benefits are provided under the Local Government Pension scheme ('the LGPS') to certain employees of the charity. The LGPS is a defined benefit statutory scheme, administered in accordance with the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013. Changes to the LGPS came into effect from 1 April 2014 with various protections in place for those members in the scheme before the changes took effect. It is contracted out of the State Second Pension. An independent firm of actuaries and consultants, Barnett Waddingham, were instructed by the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, the Administering authority to the Royal Country of Berkshire Fund ('the Fund') to undertake the calculations required and provide the disclosures following.

The calculations are in accordance with IAS19 and comply with FRS102. They use the results of the Triennial Actuarial Valuation as at 31 March 2023 and roll forward the value of the employer's liabilities. The projected unit method of valuation has been used to calculate the service cost.

Assets are valued on a 'bid value' basis (not at 'mid market') where available, or otherwise an appropriate assumption has been used.

Reconciliation of scheme assets and liabilities to assets and liabilities recognised

The amounts recognised in the balance sheet are as follows:

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Fair value of scheme assets	1,181	1,082
Present value of defined benefit obligation	(1,213)	(1,160)
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	(32)	(78)

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Defined benefit obligation

Changes in the defined benefit obligation are as follows:

	2024 £'000
Present value at start of year	(1,160)
Current service cost	(12)
Interest cost	(55)
Actuarial gains and losses	41
Experience gain/(loss) on defined benefit obligation	(3)
Benefits paid	15
Contributions by scheme participants	<u>(2)</u>
Asset ceiling	<u>(37)</u>
Present value at end of year	<u>(1,213)</u>

Fair value of scheme assets

Changes in the fair value of scheme assets are as follows:

	2024 £'000
Fair value at start of year	1,082
Interest income	52
Return on plan assets, excluding amounts included in interest income/(expense)	44
Administration expenses	(1)
Employer contributions	17
Contributions by scheme participants	2
Benefits paid	<u>(15)</u>
Fair value at end of year	<u>1,181</u>

Analysis of total income/(expense) recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Current service cost	(12)	(17)
Contributions by employer	17	16
Other finance income/(cost)	4	17
Actuarial (losses)/gains	<u>37</u>	<u>561</u>
	<u>46</u>	<u>577</u>

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Analysis of assets

The major categories of scheme assets are as follows:

	2024 %	2023 %
Cash and cash equivalents	1	2
Equity instruments	69	62
Other bonds	12	14
Property	9	13
Target return portfolio	-	-
Infrastructure	13	14
Longevity insurance	(4)	(5)
	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

Return on scheme assets

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Return on scheme assets	<u>44</u>	<u>(27)</u>

The pension scheme has not invested in any of the charity's own financial instruments or in properties or other assets used by the charity.

Principal actuarial assumptions

The principal actuarial assumptions at the balance sheet date are as follows:

	2024 %	2023 %
Discount rate	4.90	4.80
Future salary increases	3.90	3.95
Future pension increases	<u>2.90</u>	<u>2.95</u>

Post retirement mortality assumptions

	2024 Years	2023 Years
Current UK pensioners at retirement age - male	20.80	21.10
Current UK pensioners at retirement age - female	23.60	23.90
Future UK pensioners at retirement age - male	22.00	22.30
Future UK pensioners at retirement age - female	<u>25.00</u>	<u>25.30</u>

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

21 Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

	Balance 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Gains and losses	Transfers	Funds 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
General fund	891,469	2,514,145	(2,459,573)	-	(30,000)	916,041
Pension asset/(deficit)	(78,000)	-	-	46,000	-	(32,000)
Total	813,469	2,514,145	(2,459,573)	46,000	(30,000)	884,041

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds - previous year

	Balance 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	Gains and losses	Transfers	Funds 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
General fund	970,071	2,270,436	(2,164,038)	-	(185,000)	891,469
Pension asset/(deficit)	(655,000)	-	-	577,000	-	(78,000)
Total	315,071	2,270,436	(2,164,038)	577,000	(185,000)	813,469

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Analysis of movements in designated funds

	Balance 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Gains and losses	Transfers	Funds 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Learning Projects	43,500	-	-	-	-	43,500
Repairs and replacement	16,573	-	(14,142)	-	84,750	87,181
Future Fund	445,920	29,500	-	-	(64,750)	410,670
Covid recovery fund	70,750	-	-	-	-	70,750
Cinema and Bar upgrade	55,000	-	(28,042)	-	-	26,958
101 Funds	29,250	-	-	-	-	29,250
Green Shoots	2,190	-	-	-	-	2,190
IT costs	10,000	-	(8,938)	-	10,000	11,062
Total	673,183	29,500	(51,122)	-	30,000	681,561

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Analysis of movements in designated funds - previous year

	Balance 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains and losses £	Transfers £	Funds 31 March 2023 £'000
Learning Projects	43,500	-	-	-	-	43,500
Repairs and replacement	50,000	-	(33,427)	-	-	16,573
Future Fund	260,920	-	-	-	185,000	445,920
COVID recovery fund	70,750	-	-	-	-	70,750
Cinema and Bar upgrade	55,000	687	(687)	-	-	55,000
101 Funds	52,000	-	(22,750)	-	-	29,250
Green Shoots	2,190	-	-	-	-	2,190
IT costs	10,000	-	-	-	-	10,000
Total	544,360	687	(56,864)	-	185,000	673,183

Name of designated fund

Description, nature and purposes of the fund

Learning Projects	Funding for a variety of educational projects run by the Trust
Repairs and replacement	Fund for planned building repairs and replacement of capital items
Future Fund	Donations from the Save Your Corn Exchange campaign. This has been designated to help sustain the future of the Corn Exchange.
Covid recovery fund	Fund set aside for any future costs associated with Covid and its ongoing affects.
Cinema and Bar upgrade	A fund set up for costs to upgrade and refurbish the cinema to allow it to operate as intended. Additionally the balcony bar needs some work to allow better utilisation of the space and generate further income from hires etc.
101 Funds	A fund to support 101 in continuing its work with the Ambition for Arts funding ceasing at the end of the 2021/22 financial year
Green shoots	A small fund to support green initiatives throughout the organisation.
IT costs	Fund to upgrade and/or purchase IT systems with a view to increasing productivity and streamlining processes.

Analysis of movements in restricted funds

	Balance 01 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Funds 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Outdoor events	6,030	-	-	-	6,030
Learning and development projects	14,793	15,900	(21,196)	-	9,497
Evolve	54,725	-	-	-	54,725
Careers in the arts	39,827	110,300	(60,931)	-	89,196
Ageing creatively	6,319	73,246	(75,080)	-	4,485
101	-	20,000	(14,321)	-	5,679
Capital funding library	36,007	153,103	(11,113)	-	177,997
Other restricted fund	28,402	-	-	-	28,402
Total	186,103	372,549	(182,641)	-	376,011

Analysis of movements in restricted funds - previous year

	Balance 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Funds 31 March 2023 £
Outdoor events	6,030	-	-	-	6,030
Evolve	54,272	36,591	(76,070)	-	14,793
Learning and development projects	54,725	-	-	-	54,725
Careers in the arts	-	54,000	(14,173)	-	39,827
Ageing creatively	15,447	73,409	(82,537)	-	6,319
Independent cinema	-	3,613	(3,613)	-	-
101	22,000	-	(22,000)	-	-
Capital funding library	-	48,907	(12,900)	-	36,007
Other restricted fund	28,402	-	-	-	28,402
Total	180,876	216,520	(211,293)	-	186,103

Outdoor events balance carried forward represents funding of outdoor events.

Learning and development projects balance carried forwards represents funding received for a variety of educational run by the Trust.

Catalyst project balance carried forward represents funding received to fund specific posts with the organisation.

Evolve restricted funds to support the Corn Exchange's artistic programme

Ambition for excellence represents funding received from Art's Council England for a new programme of outdoor activities for 101 centre for the creation of outdoor arts.

22 Analysis of group net assets between funds

	General fund	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	360,225	-	-	360,225
Cash at bank and in hand	863,008	681,561	376,011	1,920,580
Long term liabilities	(1,055)	-	-	(1,055)
Pension Scheme deficit	(32,000)	-	-	(32,000)
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(306,137)	-	-	(306,137)
Total	884,041	681,561	376,011	1,941,613

Analysis of group net assets between funds – previous year

	General fund	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	362,309	-	-	362,309
Cash at bank and in hand	892,293	672,496	186,790	1,751,579
Long term liabilities	(5,614)	-	-	(5,614)
Pension scheme deficit	(78,000)	-	-	(78,000)
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(357,519)	-	-	(357,519)
Total	813,469	672,496	186,790	1,672,755

23 Operating lease commitments

Lessee

At the reporting end date, the group had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	Group		Trust	
	2024 £	2023 £	2024 £	2023 £
Within one year	19,167	22,500	19,167	22,500
Between two and five years	4,167	15,000	4,167	15,000
	23,334	37,500	23,334	37,500

Land and Buildings

The Trust leases the Corn Exchange building from West Berkshire Council on a 99 year lease. The council can charge a peppercorn rent under the terms of the lease. The amount to be paid in the following year, if demanded, is expected to be £1 (2023: £nil).

24 Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	Group		Charity	
	2024 £	2023 £	2024 £	2023 £
Net movement in funds	268,858	632,448	270,146	632,350
Add back depreciation charge	47,501	50,669	45,679	50,239
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(26,291)	(5,198)	(26,291)	(5,198)
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	(4,030)	(2,251)	-	-
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(267,825)	363,576	(286,086)	373,579
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(46,000)	(577,000)	(46,000)	(577,000)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	219,871	(336,115)	238,489	(350,240)
	192,084	126,129	195,937	123,730