

THE AXBRIDGE & DISTRICT MUSEUM TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 1091161

Details

Other names	KING JOHNS HUNTING LODGE KING JOHNS HUNTING LODGE MUSEUM
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	04240988
Registered	2002-03-15
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Axbridge Town Hall The Square Axbridge Somerset BS26 2AR
Phone	07586416837
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Website	www.kingjohnshuntinglodge.co.uk

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE HISTORY AND CULTURE OF AXBRIDGE AND DISTRICT, BY THE MAINTENANCE OF A MUSEUM.

Activities: The Axbridge & District Museum Trust run the museum known as 'King John's Hunting Lodge' in Axbridge. The Trust lease the building from the National Trust and operate with some membership funding from the National Trust with additional funds from sales, donations and friends.

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NOT DEFINED. IN PRACTICE SEDGEMOOR
- Somerset

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£27,934	£17,487	-	-
2024-03-31	£28,826	£23,596	-	-
2023-03-31	£14,072	£20,955	-	-
2022-03-31	£15,991	£17,378	-	-
2021-03-31	£28,146	£14,158	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ALAN PETER WELLS		2012-07-30
Charles William Henry Casson		2026-01-20
Grahame Paine		2023-03-15
James Morgan Hayes		2025-03-18
Katrina Gulliver		2024-06-18
Kevin Terence Rooke		2023-10-17
LESLIE JAMES STANLEY		2026-01-20
MRS LIZ SCOTT		
Oliver Clark		2026-01-20
Paul Butler McLees		2026-03-17
Paul Leonard Hughes		2019-07-10
Pauline Trapp		2017-09-19

THE AXBRIDGE & DISTRICT MUSEUM TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1091161

Accounts

The Axbridge and District Museum Trust

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

22nd October 2025 7:30pm

Axbridge Church Rooms

Present: P Hughes, E Scott, M Owen, G Paine, K Rooke, J Hayes, P Ironside, J Dunford, R Burdock, C Hembrow, W Kirk, D Packman & L Newman.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Pauline Trapp, Katrina Gulliver, Andy McLeod, Alan Wells, John Page, Ian Tabrett, Madeleine Roberts, Dave Roberts.
- 2. Minutes of AGM held on 15th October 2024:** The minutes were approved as a true and fair reflection.
- 3. Trustee Resignations:** In accordance with the Articles of Association, the Axbridge Town Council (ATC) nominee (Alan Wells), the Axbridge Town Trust ATT) nominee (Grahame Paine_, together with 25% of the remaining Trustees (Kevin Rooke) duly resigned.
- 4. Confirmation of Trustees:** A Wells, G Paine and K Rooke, along with the remaining Trustees were re-appointed to the Board and the remaining Board members were re-elected.
- 5. Approval of the continuation of the Trustees' Rota of Chair and Deputy Chair for meetings:** the rotation system introduced in 2023 has proven effective and popular. The meeting approved the continuation of the arrangement.
- 6. Reports:**
Trustees' Report: 2024-2025 Season

Season Overview and Changes

The 2024-2025 season has been a year of significant activity and evolution for the Museum. A notable change early in 2025 was the resignation of our Finance Officer, Ralph Peebles-Brown, who served for many years, diligently "practicing the dark arts of balancing the books." We thank him for his long and dedicated service.

Steward and Volunteer Contributions

We are delighted to have welcomed seven new stewards this season, who have settled in well and are doing a sterling job. This welcome uptake in our team—now numbering an amazing thirty-one—has allowed us to fulfil our promise of keeping the Museum open seven days a week during the open season, which has contributed to a healthy increase in footfall (detailed below).

The Axbridge and District Museum Trust

It is important to pause and highlight the work our Stewards do. The Museum would not function without their commitment. They meet and greet our guests, often giving up a considerable amount of their free time. Visitor feedback is consistently positive, frequently noting that the Steward interaction is friendly, approachable, and impressive.

While all stewards are valued equally, we must give a special mention to the core group who consistently give their time, come rain or shine: Christine Hembrow and Rosemary White, who have covered fifty-nine and sixty-two shifts, respectively. Thank you to them and to all the other dedicated stewards.

Trustee Developments

We welcomed one new Trustee this season: James Hayes, who joined us in March 2025. James brings an extensive business and technology background and has wholeheartedly immersed himself in Museum life. He performs the role of Keyholder (only setting off the alarm once!) and is playing a pivotal role in the redesign of the Museum entrance.

One of the administrative transformations that occurred last season was the way the Axbridge District Museum Trust (ADMT) is governed. Since John Page stepped down as Chair in October 2023, no single individual Trustee performs the role of Chair. The responsibility is now undertaken democratically, with each Trustee sharing the duties. This model is working well and will continue. A special mention must go to Trustees Alan Wells and Grahame Paine, who between them compile most of the Trust's documents, including minutes.

Visitor Figures and Engagement

Up to early October 2025, this season the Museum has received 7,385 visitors. With still a few weeks to go, we anticipate exceeding last season's numbers. This increase can be attributed to several factors: the additional day of opening, the television exposure of Axbridge and the Museum (*A Good Girl's Guide to Murder*), and opening for special events.

We have recorded a significant increase in local visitors, with local footfall percentage rising to 5.4% this year. Given that the majority of museums (including KJHL last season) report local footfall of less than 5%, this increase is no mean feat.

A number of factors have helped attract locals across the threshold, but we suspect that Pauline Tripp's interaction with local schools is playing a key part. On more than one occasion, families have visited because their children, following a recent school visit, have "dragged their parents along" to show them around—a sign of young stewards in the making!

Entrance Redesign

The Trustees are currently in a phase of refreshing the entrance area. The goal is to create a warm, well-lit, and informative welcome area. While the entrance was

The Axbridge and District Museum Trust

transformed a few years ago when Dean became the Museum manager, we are taking the opportunity to develop that work further. In the words of E.M. Forster, "History develops, art stands still," and we are ensuring the Museum continues to develop. This refresh will hopefully include new lighting, signage, and the relocation of a few select items, ready for the new season opening in April 2026.

Souvenir Shop Success

The product selection curated by Dean in stocking the small but effective Souvenir shop cannot go unmentioned. The introduction of locally produced preserves has proved really popular, and Dean is happy to report that the takings this season to date stand at £1,754. Thank you, Dean, for your tireless hard work.

Events at the Museum

Cinematic Backdrop: 'A Good Girls Guide to Murder' (Series 2 & 3)

Since Summer 2023, Axbridge Town Centre has become a set for the popular BBC/Netflix series. Currently, a third series is being filmed, with the Museum being prominently rebadged as the 'Little Kilton Museum'. Additionally, Dawn French recorded a comedy series in Axbridge town centre early in 2025. Interest in both Axbridge and the Museum as a cinematic backdrop and tourist attraction is certainly increasing.

Paranormal Investigations

As reported last year, Paranormal Investigations have continued to take place late evening in the Museum. These investigations are capped to a limited number per year, as a Trustee must always be present. Thank you again to Dean who has hosted these late-night events.

Temporary Exhibitions

This reporting year, the Temporary Exhibitions room has hosted a number of engaging displays, including:

- 75th Anniversary of the Axbridge Caving/Archeological/History Society, and the roots of the Museum
- History of the Axbridge Methodist Chapel
- School Exhibition
- 80th Anniversary of the end of WWII

All the above have garnered a considerable amount of interest from visitors. Thanks must be given to the members of the Curatorial and Exhibitions (C&E) team who pull these exhibitions together on a regular basis.

Repacking of Artefacts Project

Over the last year, archived artefacts in the Town Hall are being repackaged under the watchful eye of Lucy Newman. This project has a rather wordy official title – as required by the grant application for the museum grade packing

The Axbridge and District Museum Trust

materials, as – 'Wint Hill and Star Roman Villas and Hay Wood; the repackaging and better understanding of significant Archaeological Collections' !! Since June (2025) eight volunteers have given up their Monday mornings to assist with this task, with 170hrs clocked up to date. To date, five hundred items have been repackaged and all involved have learned new skills; and found the time spent rewarding and fascinating.

As a side note, the Hay Wood skulls are 5000 years old and therefore a significant part of local pre-history.

School Liaison Report

Pauline Tripp, our School Liaison Trustee, has worked extensively with local schools this year and would like to highlight the partnership with Sandford Primary school. In July, Years 1 and 2 visited the Town to enrich their local study project.

The visit, run by Museum volunteers, did not just focus on the Museum but was a whole-town experience. The students followed the Children's town trail and stopped at various locations — including the old Methodist church, St John's church, and the Town Hall — as well as the Museum, in rotation. Each venue provided information to the attendant students and carers. This represents a novel way of extending the walls of the Museum to include and showcase the rest of the town.

Pauline states:

"This experiential model provides a unique learning experience and enhances the pre-learning that has taken place in the classroom. We welcome contact from schools that would like to participate in the Axbridge town experience. Thank you to Team Axbridge for your generosity of help on the day – Dean Packham, Paul Hughes, Stephanie Teychenne Gall, and John Page."

Closing Remarks

The current reporting year closes with evolutionary changes that will hopefully leave the Museum feeling refreshed. It is anticipated that this project will continue for some time—possibly forever—as museums should always evolve. This museum belongs to everyone: the town, the stewards, the trustees, the local population, and anyone who has travelled 4,000 miles to visit it. Therefore, we welcome suggestions from everyone about how the Museum can progress. Thank you all for your continued support and hard work.

This report was created by Trustee Kevin Rooke, on behalf of the Trustees of KJHL. October 202

Friends report:

The Axbridge and District Museum Trust

Another successful year was had with our monthly meetings being held in Cross MH

November —Richard Raynesford - Somerset Fingerposts and Signposts

December- 18 enjoyed a Christmas meal at the Lamb , Weare an excellent meal and quiz — this year on 12th December, a date for the diary , menu available shortly - names to me .

January — 4 of our members gave short talks on their subjects followed by free refreshments as a New Year thank you to members

February — Brian Aston SS Great Britain was so good we are taking the Frankie Howerd bus and members in June to see it in Bristol next June.

March — Fiona Torren Spence - History of Aston and Stone Allerton Windmills

March — Frankie Howerd bus commissioned with 12 of us to the Barry Lane Lecture in Westbury sub Mendip — Current Excavations on Mendip Prof Jodie Lewis

April- Yvonne Bell -Somerset's Edwardian Homes

May -- Sue and Phil Thorne - Origins of Somerset Nursery Rhymes

June and July outside trips we had a bus full of Friends on our visits to Watchet and Blackmore Farm Cannington

September —John Page on the Museum's Historic Postcards

October - a bus full of Friends and Stewards had a lovely trip to Laycock Abbey curtesy of the NT

November — last week we had a talk on our historic and nationally pottery .- ,liecton by Dr David Dawson who I met over 30 years ago when the Museum was run by SDC and David was involved in the Museum with SCC.

We are currently preparing the 2026 calendar of events which will be available soon.

At the moment we have over 60 paid up members and many other supporters of the group. We are actively seeking new members and feel £15 pa single and £25 family membership offers good value to take advantage of the Museums generosity and invites to trips and coffee mornings. Membership forms available here tonight and any other information you wish to know please contact me. If you would like a copy of our monthly Retrospect please let me know.

On 1st December the Museum is taking part in a Heritage evening in the Town Hall at 7. 00 pm where we will be joining forces with the Church and the Axe Valley Arts Centre to promote our organisations. My intention is to prepare a display for the Hunting Lodge on Axbridge Life and Times in the 1950's and 1960's and I am looking for stories, photo's and memories of this period. Any help would be gratefully received.

My thanks to my team Ian Tabrett editor of Retrospect , Margaret Jordan, Madeleine Roberts and John Page for their support in organising our activities during the year.

The Axbridge and District Museum Trust

Trustee Liz Scott created this report, on behalf of the Trustees of KJHL.

Finance Report

Finance Report for the Year 2024–2025

Closing Balance: £66,010.38

(Balance at 31 March 2024: £55,382.53)

Financial Overview

The Trust has had another successful year, marked by record visitor numbers that positively impacted overall income. Increased footfall resulted in higher sales, donations, and a total National Trust membership credit payment of £10,806.

Total income for the year was further strengthened by two payments from Somerset Council under the Care of Collections agreement. These payments included the late payment for the 2023 – 2024 financial year.

A Gift Aid receipt from HMRC totalled £989.41, and bank interest rose significantly to £773.84 following changes to the Trust's deposit arrangements. Subscriptions and monthly meetings organised by The Friends made a net contribution of £847.

Expenditure

Expenditure for the year was notably lower than in 2023–24. Savings were achieved through a reduction in Honoraria payments, with the roles of Treasurer and Company Secretary currently undertaken by Trustees on a voluntary basis. There were no major purchases during the year, in contrast to the previous period which included the acquisition of the Long Cased Clocks. This contributed to the healthy year-end balance.

Prospects for 2025–2026

A budget has been set for the forthcoming year as follows:

- Projected Income: £23,510
- Projected Expenditure: £20,928

The Trust continues to explore opportunities to maintain and increase its income through visitor engagement, external funding, and partnership initiatives.

Accounts and Examination

The accounts for 2024–2025 have been independently examined by Philip Read, who has confirmed his approval.

Upon approval at the AGM, the accounts will be submitted to:

- Companies House (due by 31 December 2025)
- The Charities Commission (due by 31 January 2026)

Acting Treasurer Alan Wells created this report, on behalf of the Trustees of KJHL.

The Axbridge and District Museum Trust

Manager's information summary for the year;

2024 Visitors: 7,363 (Dec 2024)

2025 Visitors: 7,385

2024 Local: 256 (5.97%) (July-Dec)

2025 Local: 398 (5.39%)

2025 Sales

Cash: £790.10

Card: £963.55

Total: £1,753.65 (2024: £1,403.50)

2025 Donations – Apr-Sept)

Card Donation: £293.50

Cash Donation: £2,111.60

Just Giving: £246.17

Total: £2,641.27 (2024: £3,168.55)

7. **2024 – 2025 Accounts Approval:** The ADMT is not required to present audited accounts. For good practice the accounts are independently checked. This year they were examined by Phillip Read. The board resolved unanimously to accept the independently checked accounts. Proposed K Rooke and seconded by P Hughes.
8. **Honoraria payments to Officers:** Continuation of Honoraria payments, where appropriate for the Museum Manager and Museum curator were approved. The level of, and justification for Honoraria payments will remain the responsibility of the trustees.
9. **AOB:** Paula Ironside asked if the proposed changes to the ground floor of the museum could be shared with Stewards ahead of changes being made.

Is it helpful/possible to re-introduce the visitors book. Some Trustees explained the issues regarding GDPR compliance when collecting information – the discussion considered use of comments cards to collect visitors views, trustee to consider going forward.

10. NEXT AGM: 20th OCTOBER 2026

Axbridge and District Museum Trust
Financial Statements for the period 1st April 2024 to 31 March 2025

Income and Expenditure Account

1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025

(2023-24)

Income

Council grants	£1,400.00	£1,400.00
Admission charges	£0.00	£0.00
National Trust membership credit	£10,896.00	£12,841.50
General donations	£2,990.85	£2,580.50
Online Donations	£297.80	£119.47
Specific donations	£0.00	£0.00
Hire of premises	£650.00	£750.00
Sales	£1,479.38	£1,166.33
Care of collection contribution	£7,140.00	£0.00
Lecture fees	£0.00	£0.00
Custodians trip	£0.00	£0.00
Gift Aid/other income	£989.41	£1,260.09
Fundraising/grants	£300.00	£4,400.00
Interest	£773.84	£187.33
Corporate Friends	£0.00	£0.00
AALHS Funds	£0.00	£1,689.82
Friends Meetings	£187.00	£645.75
Friends of the Museum	£830.00	£720.00
Refunds	£0.00	£1,064.82
Total Income	£27,934.28	£28,825.61

Expenditure

Honoraria	£6,720.00	£7,914.00
Postage	£0.00	£7.50
Printing/Stationery	£306.67	£23.49
Training	£35.00	£0.00
Volunteer Promotion	£365.80	£203.82
Subsistence/travel	£29.15	£12.30
Membership Fees	£287.00	£263.00
Legal Fees	£0.00	£0.00
Building Maintenance	£872.35	£1,104.03
Building Refurbishment	£108.61	£0.00
Water Supply	£122.09	£92.92
Electricity	£469.06	£570.95
Telephone	£184.32	£286.94
National Trust Lease	£1,320.00	£1,320.00
Town Hall Rent	£3,500.00	£3,500.00
Town Hall Utilities	£431.41	£384.71
Advertising & Publicity	£0.00	£0.00
Exhibitions/events/conservation	£366.03	£449.57
Insurances	£1,146.01	£1,121.01
Room Hire	£30.00	£40.00
Grant related purchases	£0.00	£4,900.00
Shop Purchases	£807.70	£931.06
Friends Meeting Expenses	£170.00	£308.50
Companies House	£34.00	£13.00
Other expenditure	£181.93	£149.35
Prior Year Debtor Write Off	£0.00	£0.00
Total expenditure	£17,487.13	£23,596.15
Excess of income over expenditure	£10,447.15	£5,229.46

Axbridge and District Museum Trust
Financial Statements for the period 1st April 2024 to 31 March 2025

Balance Sheet

as at 31st March 2025

(2023-24)

Prepayment	£0.00	£0.00
Bank and Cash	£34,606.47	£24,159.32
Investments	£31,403.91	£31,223.21
Debtors	£0.00	£0.00
Liabilities	£0.00	£0.00
Net Assets	£66,010.38	£55,382.53
Financed by:		
Opening balance	£55,382.53	£46,615.13
Invoices outstanding	£0.00	£0.00
Retained Profit	£10,447.15	£5,229.46
Movement in Investment value	£180.70	£3,537.94
less commitments	£0.00	£0.00
	£66,010.38	£55,382.53

For the year ended 31 March 2024 the Company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- i) The members have not required the Company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- ii) the directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

These accounts were approved by the directors and authorised for issue on 21st October 2025 and are signed on their behalf by:

Signed:

Chair of the AGM

Company Registration Number 4240988

Note to the accounts

Cash Movement Reconciliation

1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025

(2023-24)

Opening balance	£55,382.53	£46,615.13
Income	£27,934.28	£28,825.61
Expenditure	-£17,487.13	-£23,596.15
Payments uncleared	£0.00	£0.00
Movement in Investment Value	£180.70	£3,537.94
Closing Balance	£66,010.38	£55,382.53
Held as:		
COIF Charity Fund/Investments	£31,403.91	£31,223.21
Business deposit account(s)	£33,996.47	£23,066.69
Current Account	£500.00	£1,092.63
Deposits uncleared	£0.00	£0.00
less uncleared payments	£0.00	£0.00
Cash held	£110.00	£0.00
	£66,010.38	£55,382.53

In accordance with the policy of the Board, £20,000 is held in reserve and has been identified to be used only the the event that otherwise the Trust would become insolvent.

P Read
17 Hippisley Drive
Axbridge
Somerset
BS26 2DE

12th August 2025

To whom it may concern,

Axbridge and District Museum Trust
ACCOUNTS: 1/4/24 to 31/3/2025

I have examined the above financial statements for the period ending 31st March 2025 and can confirm that they have been properly extracted from the accounting records of the Axbridge and District Museum Trust and source documentation.



P Read
12th August 2025

THE AXBRIDGE & DISTRICT MUSEUM TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1091161

Accounts

Axbridge and District Museum Trust AGM 15th October 2024

7:30pm

Trustees report :

Like all years, this Season 2023 to 2024, has been interesting, busy, and not without change. The most notable personnel changes have been the 'retirement' of John Page (long serving Chair), Officer Kate Browne, and Trustee Dr Robin Goodfellow. All three have provided years of invaluable service, guidance, and wisdom, to which the Trust will be eternally grateful. John can still be regularly found as a Steward in the Museum (in 'Friends' meetings and as an active member of the Collections and Exhibitions committee), imparting his deep knowledge to Stewards and visitors alike.

At this point, it is prudent to mention that very early this year we sadly lost John Chapman, who had an extensive history with the Museum. John was a leading light in the AALHS and was heavily involved in the establishment of the ADMT and the founding of the museum. John had served in management roles in the various incarnations of the Museum and had provided a wealth of information, advice and interesting talks to the 'Friends'. John also wrote and published books on local historical sites. A friend and asset who will be missed.

We welcome two new trustees this season – Dr Katrina Gulliver and Kevin Rooke. Katrina started in Spring 2024 and brings with her an extensive academic background in history and has taken on responsibility for reviewing and advising on the Museum's social media and digital footprint; and has already identified alternative and exciting platforms the museum can use to reach a larger audience. Kevin is a trustee without portfolio but has found himself involved in fundraising projects which are starting to bear fruit.

The Stewards have increased to twenty-two in number, and it is hoped that with this uplift, there will be a possibility of opening the Museum for seven days a week during the 2025 season. At this point, it would be remiss not to pause and highlight the work the Stewards do in the Museum throughout the season. A customer insight survey conducted during the season, revealed that 94% of visitors were 'highly satisfied' and even more impressive was that 96% thought that the welcome from the stewards was 'excellent'. These statistics reflect the conversations that take place between visitors and trustees where compliments regarding stewards' subject matter knowledge, friendliness and approachability are commonplace. Without stewards there would not be a museum,

and without the excellent work of our steward team we would not be having the proven year-on-year increase in visitor numbers - 2023 saw 5668 visitors, a record number. I am delighted to say that so far this year we have already exceeded this number and so we will post record-breaking attendance for the second year in a row.'

Returning to the subject of changes, one of the transformations that has occurred this year is the way the ADMT is administered. Since John Page stood down as Chair October 2023 no individual trustee performs the role of Chair, but akin to the United Nations, all trustees take turns to chair monthly meetings; To date, this works well. A special mention goes to Trustee Alan Wells who has compiled the meeting minutes since Kate Browne stepped down.

Another update implemented this year is the way we store our business documents, with the introduction of cloud storage, by Trustee Andy Mcleod. By storing these documents electronically they can be securely archived, indexed, and easily located. The Museum Manager, Dean Packham, gave up a lot of his summer scanning and indexing bygone reports and minutes. These records can be accessed, with correct permissions, on the Museums Google Drive.

Continuing with the theme of the Museum using online technology, the Museum has introduced a POS payment terminal, which allows visitors to pay for Museum merchandise or make donations during their visit. The ability to do this, coupled with the updated and extensive branded KJHL merchandise (introduced by Manager Dean Packham) has increased takings within the Museum.

Events at the museum

'A Good Girls Guide to Murder'

During Summer 2023 Axbridge Town Centre became a set for the above-named Television series. The Museum featured as a backdrop for a number of scenes. Interest in the production has drawn visitors into the town and more importantly, into the Museum.

Paranormal Investigations

On a limited number of occasions over the last twelve months, the Museum has played host to Paranormal investigators. These groups have reported limited but interesting results whilst incidentally making generous donations to our funds.

Long Clocks

One of the features that drew considerable admiration was the inclusion of the long case clocks and associated display on Time. These clocks have been purchased with the support of the Axbridge Parochial Charity, The Art Fund and ACE/V&A.

Children's Space

The ground floor space has been revamped to include a designated children's area. This zone now contains new costumes which allow our small visitors to try clothes of the past. It is common on the weekend to see children wandering the Museum dressed in Workhouse clothes, clutching a quiz whilst pondering the word S.K.E.L.E.T.O.N's.

The Basle Air Disaster

The 50-year Anniversary display of this event that was run in 2023, has found a permanent home in the Museum on the first floor.

The current reporting year closes with evolutionary changes that will hopefully make the running of the Museum easier. It is anticipated that the next year will continue in the same vein, but with a focus on attracting new audiences, especially those living close by. It is noted that KJHL, like all Museums, attracts only 5% of the local population, and there are plans afoot to improve upon this. However, any ideas to tempt our locals across the threshold will be gratefully received.

Finally, to finish - Thank you all for your continued support and hard work.

Trustee Kevin Rooke created this report, on behalf of the Trustees of KJHL.

Axbridge and District Museum Trust
Financial Statements for the period 1st April 2023 to 31 March 2024

Income and Expenditure Account

1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

(2022-23)

Income

Council grants	£1,400.00	£1,400.00
COVID-19 Support Grant	£0.00	£0.00
Admission charges	£0.00	£0.00
National Trust membership credit	£12,841.50	£4,240.50
General donations	£2,580.50	£2,321.50
Online Donations	£119.47	£245.49
Specific donations	£0.00	£0.00
Hire of premises	£750.00	£710.00
Sales	£1,166.33	£0.00
Care of collection contribution	£0.00	£3,570.00
Lecture fees	£0.00	£0.00
Custodians trip	£0.00	£0.00
Gift Aid/other income	£1,260.09	£0.00
Fundraising/grants	£4,400.00	£1,000.00
Interest	£187.33	£32.12
Corporate Friends	£0.00	£110.00
AALHS Funds	£1,689.82	£0.00
Friends Meetings	£645.75	£57.00
Friends of the Museum	£720.00	£385.00
Refunds	£1,064.82	£0.00
Total Income	£28,825.61	£14,071.61

Expenditure

Honoraria	£7,914.00	£7,688.00
Postage	£7.50	£0.00
Printing/Stationery	£23.49	£57.60
Volunteer Promotion	£203.82	£996.00
Subsistence/travel	£12.30	£0.00
Membership Fees	£263.00	£246.00
Legal Fees	£0.00	£0.00
Building Maintenance	£1,104.03	£2,243.49
Building Refurbishment	£0.00	£39.52
Water Supply	£92.92	£104.39
Electricity	£570.95	£294.58
Telephone	£286.94	£582.85
National Trust Lease	£1,320.00	£1,320.00
Town Hall Rent	£3,500.00	£3,500.00
Town Hall Utilities	£384.71	£335.09
Intruder Alarm	£0.00	£2,433.04
Advertising & Publicity	£0.00	£0.00
Exhibitions/events/conservation	£449.57	£0.00
Insurances	£1,121.01	£1,020.36
Room Hire	£40.00	£21.00
Grant related purchases	£4,900.00	£0.00
Shop Purchases	£931.06	£0.00
Friends Meeting Expenses	£308.50	
Companies House	£13.00	£13.00
Other expenditure	£149.35	£60.50
Prior Year Debtor Write Off	£0.00	£0.00
Total expenditure	£23,596.15	£20,955.42
Excess of income over expenditure	£5,229.46	-£6,883.81

Axbridge and District Museum Trust
Financial Statements for the period 1st April 2023 to 31 March 2024

Balance Sheet

as at 31st March 2024

(2022-23)

Prepayment		£0.00
Bank and Cash	£24,159.32	£19,003.36
Investments	£31,223.21	£27,685.27
Debtors	£0.00	£0.00
Liabilities	£0.00	-£73.50
Net Assets	£55,382.53	£46,615.13

Financed by:

Opening balance	£46,615.13	£54,079.59
Invoices outstanding	£0.00	£0.00
Retained Profit	£5,229.46	-£6,883.81
Movement in Investment value	£3,537.94	-£580.65
less commitments	£0.00	£0.00
	£55,382.53	£46,615.13

For the year ended 31 March 2023 the Company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- i) The members have not required the Company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- ii) the directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

These accounts were approved by the directors and authorised for issue on 17th October 2023 and are signed on their behalf by:

Signed:

Chairman of the AGM

Company Registration Number 4240988

Note to the accounts

Cash Movement Reconciliation

1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

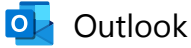
(2022-23)

Opening balance	£46,615.13	£54,079.59
Income	£28,825.61	£14,071.61
Expenditure	-£23,596.15	-£20,955.42
Payments uncleared	£0.00	£0.00
Movement in Investment Value	£3,537.94	-£580.65
Closing Balance	£55,382.53	£46,615.13

Held as:


COIF Charity Fund/Investments	£31,223.21	£27,685.27
Business deposit account(s)	£23,066.69	£18,120.59
Current Account	£1,092.63	£73.82
Deposits uncleared	£0.00	£0.00
less uncleared payments	£0.00	-£73.50
Cash held	£0.00	£808.95
	£55,382.53	£46,615.13

In accordance with the policy of the Board, £20,000 is held in reserve and has been identified to be used only the the event that otherwise the Trust would become insolvent.



Re: ADMT Accounts

From Mike Sartain <m.sartain@hotmail.co.uk>
Date Tue 08/10/2024 15:29
To Ralph Peebles Brown <ralph-b@hotmail.com>
Cc alan wells <alan.wells9@btopenworld.com>

 1 attachment (57 KB)
BCR March 2024 Working.xls;

Dear Ralph and Alan

Thanks for sending over the accounts.
I am happy to report to you and the Trustees that I have examined the accounts for the Axbridge and District Museum Trust and can verify that they are a true representation of the facts presented to me.

Well done Ralph, an excellent job!

Best regards



Mike Sartain

From: Ralph Peebles Brown <ralph-b@hotmail.com>
Sent: 07 October 2024 12:44
To: m.sartain@hotmail.co.uk <m.sartain@hotmail.co.uk>
Subject: ADMT Accounts

Hi Mike

Please find attached spreadsheet for the 2023-24 Museum Trust Accounts.

Please let me have any queries.

Thanks

Ralph

Sent from [Outlook](#)

THE AXBRIDGE & DISTRICT MUSEUM TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1091161

Accounts

Chairman's Report October 2021 AGM

When I started looking at what the Trust has been doing this year, I expected to have little to report, but how wrong I was. However, that does not mean I aim to keep you here all night! Although we did not manage to open until the 21st July we have managed to do quite a lot of things prior to that time, making use of a quiet period to complete things we had not had a chance to handle previously. These included a revision of our Memorandum and Articles of Association, a Safeguarding Policy and an updated Business Plan. Alan and Kate put a lot of work into these, for which many thanks.

Alan has also done some sterling work setting up a new website for us with help from Josh and Kevin from Enable and Andy Corp, who chairs the local photographic group. Notably, if you enter, King John's Hunting Lodge Axbridge on the web it presents our site following the National Trust site, which is exactly what we wanted to achieve. It's worth a look if you haven't done so already. Our grateful thanks to all that team.

Talking of websites, we have also been participating in the Visit Somerset "Museum Monday" Facebook site, in which a number of museums participate on a rota, but we are there this week (on the roundel) and had already provided an earlier slot (on the Lamb and Flag). We also managed to squeeze in on the BBC show "Farmer's Country Showdown," which was a bonus, though a couple of hours or so filming became a very short period of transmission. Alan has also been doing some Twitter for us and Kate has transposed this onto Facebook and Instagram, so we are doing quite well online, with thanks to both of them, but I believe they could do with some help with continuity.

I mentioned that we opened on the 21st of July. That required quite a lot of management prior to the date, as we were uncertain how the Covid-19 pandemic would go. Les managed to get some excellent screens arranged for the steward's desk and they have proven very useful and Jools helped with the hand sanitiser and other PPE items. Robin arranged some printed route instructions and organised the schedule. Whilst we have been unable to open every day, we have managed to consistently open for five days a week, which is excellent, so our thanks to all those who have helped to achieve this. After some nagging from Alan we even managed to get the National Trust website to update our opening hours, though it did take some time. We decided that we would not make a charge for anyone, as the National Trust were not intending to give us any recompense for their members visiting the museum, due to their financial position (hopefully that will only apply this year), nor would we sell any of our books and products, though the NT style booklet could be purchased through the donations box. That would mean that our stewards would not have to handle cash. We are in need of extra stewards, Robin has been doing quite a lot of covering this year, but we have received quite a lot of praise for our efforts. So, thanks to those stewards and trustees who have made this work in such difficult times and to Robin for his hard work.

Our exhibitions do seem to have withstood the period of closure remarkably well and our cleaners have done an excellent job refurbishing the museum, with some specific help from Robin. Pauline managed to acquire a superb display for our temporary exhibition, which is

continuing to the end of the season, due to a technical hitch on the replacement. It was supplied by the Axbridge First School and featured the Romans. I have heard a number of visitors praising it, including a head teacher from elsewhere. Also, with the help of a grant or two from the Co-op, Pauline is creating school packs to take around and is already indicating that more schools are wanting to participate. Great work Pauline.

Rosemary has put out a great deal of publicity in many different publications and manages to find something new to say, even if we have not supplied her with anything substantive. It has been really good to keep our name in front of local people, so many thanks to her.

Liz Scott has become our new liaison with the museum Friends. Lucy has been doing some excellent work behind the scenes, keeping our collections in order and attending some courses, but also participating in a programme to monitor pests which may affect our collections. Kate has been involved in one way or another in almost everything we do, as well as handling her normal secretarial duties and Ralph has, once again, proven his worth in keeping our accounts up to scratch, with help from Alan where necessary. We have also been participating in the Axbridge trail project, where Paul Hughes has played an active role. This seems to be coming on well and the person who is doing the write-ups for them has been mentioning the museum on a number of occasions!

Hopefully I have covered everything I need to and thanked everyone who has helped turn what could have been another passive year into an active and progressive year. If not, please accept my apologies. Just before I hand over to Ralph for the financial report, I do have one last thing to say, which is to welcome our new Trustee, Andy McLeod. We have done well over the last few years from the trustees who have joined us and I'm sure that is going to continue with our new member. Welcome Andy.

Axbridge and District Museum Trust
Financial Statements for the period 1st April 2020 to 31 March 2021

Income and Expenditure Account

1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021

(2019-20)

Income

Council grants	£1,400.00	£1,400.00
COVID-19 Support Grant	£20,707.00	£0.00
Admission charges		£1,985.00
National Trust membership credit		£8,920.00
General donations	£190.00	£691.49
Specific donations		£50.00
Hire of premises	£250.00	£250.00
Sales		£858.62
Care of collection contribution	£3,570.00	£3,570.00
Lecture fees		£30.00
Custodians trip		£30.00
Gift Aid/other income	£265.37	£242.65
Fundraising/grants	£1,400.52	£15.09
Interest	£38.24	£196.94
Friends of the Museum	£325.00	£2,610.00
Refunds		£59.24
Total Income	£28,146.13	£20,909.03

Expenditure

Honoraria	£6,264.00	£5,256.00
Postage	£35.12	£0.00
Printing/Stationery	£5.00	£0.00
Subsistence/travel	£0.00	£780.54
Membership Fees	£175.20	£234.80
Legal Fees	£0.00	£0.00
Building Maintenance	£100.00	£1,686.57
Building Refurbishment	£0.00	£53.70
Water Supply	£100.97	£105.20
Electricity	£186.86	£321.07
Telephone	£420.48	£428.48
National Trust Lease	£1,320.00	£3,000.00
Town Hall Rent	£3,500.00	£3,500.00
Town Hall Utilities	£145.97	£131.96
Intruder Alarm	£937.42	£905.71
Advertising & Publicity	£0.00	£517.08
Exhibitions/events/conservation	£0.00	£446.12
Insurances	£727.20	£841.83
Room Hire	£0.00	£34.00
Grant related purchases	£51.37	£0.00
Shop Purchases	£0.00	£206.98
Companies House	£13.00	£13.00
Other expenditure	£65.00	£494.00
Prior Year Debtor Write Off	£110.00	£0.00
Total expenditure	£14,157.59	£18,957.04
Excess of income over expenditure	£13,988.54	£1,951.99

Axbridge and District Museum Trust
Financial Statements for the period 1st April 2020 to 31 March 2021

Balance Sheet
as at 31st March 2021 (2019-20)

Prepayment	£0.00	£0.00
Bank and Cash	£57,023.36	£42,924.82
Debtors	£0.00	£110.00
Liabilities	£0.00	£0.00
Net Assets	£57,023.36	£43,034.82
Financed by:		
Opening balance	£43,034.82	£40,972.83
Invoices outstanding	£0.00	£110.00
Retained Profit	£13,988.54	£1,951.99
less commitments	£0.00	£0.00
	£57,023.36	£43,034.82

For the year ended 31 March 2021 the Company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- i) The members have not required the Company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- ii) the directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

These accounts were approved by the directors and authorised for issue on 19th October 2021 and are signed on their behalf by:

Signed:



John G Page
Chairman of the Board
Company Registration Number 4240988

Note to the accounts

Cash Movement Reconciliation
1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021 (2019-20)

Opening balance	£42,924.82	£40,972.83
Income	£28,146.13	£20,909.03
Expenditure	-£14,047.59	-£18,957.04
Payments uncleared	£0.00	£0.00
Closing Balance	£57,023.36	£42,924.82
Held as:		
COIF Charity Fund	£29,820.45	£29,782.83
Business deposit account	£2,609.19	£2,283.57
Current Account	£24,242.75	£10,547.45
Deposits uncleared	£0.00	£0.00
less uncleared payments	£0.00	£0.00
Cash held	£350.97	£310.97
	£57,023.36	£42,924.82

In accordance with the policy of the Board, a reserve of £20,000 held in the COIF Charity Fund has been identified to be used only in the event that otherwise the Trust would become insolvent.

Newlands, 30 West Street, Axbridge, Somerset, BS26 2AD Tel: 01934 732659

Mr Alan Wells
Axbridge and District Museum Trust
49 West Street
Axbridge
Somerset
BS26 2AA

11th October 2021

Dear Alan

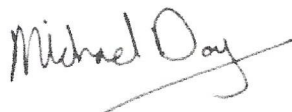
I have carried out an inspection of the accounts for the Axbridge District Museum Trust for the year ending 31st March 2021.

Based on the information provided I can confirm that the accounts are an accurate reflection of the Museum Trust's finances.

The records and analysis of the information are comprehensive and clearly presented.

I recommend that in the interests of transparency and openness for the Trust that every future year the Trust minutes the agreement of the Trustees to pay the various honorariums, documenting the amount paid, to whom and its purpose. This could be done at each AGM. I also suggest that a letter is written to the people receiving these payments each year, reminding them that they are responsible for any tax or NI payments.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Day". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Michael Day