

The Bedfordshire Music Trust
(Limited by Guarantee)

Report and Financial Statements

Year ended: 30 April 2023

Charity Number: 1104849
Company Number: 04195243

The Bedfordshire Music Trust (Company Number: 04195243)

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The Bedfordshire Music Trust (Company Number: 04195243)

Legal and Administrative Information **For the year ended 30 April 2023**

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 30 April 2023.

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name:	The Bedfordshire Music Trust
Charity registration number:	1104849
Company registration number:	04195243
Registered Office and operational address:	The White House Odell Road Sharnbrook Bedford MK44 1JL

Trustees

Mrs C Astridge (Resigned 4 July 2023)

Mrs J Brown

Mr B J Greenwood

Mrs M A Russell

Mr J P Sheehan

Mrs J Smith

Mr J C Waters

Mr N Wood

Treasurer and Chair

Secretary

Mr B J Greenwood

Bankers

CAF Bank Limited, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ
Clydesdale Bank PLC, 154 -158 Kensington High Street, London, W8 7RL.

**Report of the Management Committee
For the year ended 30 April 2023**

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 5 April 2001 and registered as a charity on 12 July 2004. The company was formed under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £10.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles of Association are known as Trustees. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the retirement of one third of the Trustees is required and the retirees may apply for re-election at the Annual General Meeting.

Risk Management

During the year under review, the charity's activities continued to recover from the restrictions of the Coronavirus pandemic in the UK. A full return to face-to-face operation was possible. The move to operational methods that had been the norm pre-pandemic returned the charity to a risk position similar to that faced in 2019 and earlier years. Levels of risk are noted in the Achievements and Performance section below. The Trustees have sought to put in place operational procedures to ensure that the trust meets its statutory duties to all music course attendees and the staff who tutor them, making the rehearsal and concert venues safe and secure environments for all concerned. This includes putting in place relevant insurance policies and taking professional advice to develop and implement robust systems of checking and supervision over such matters as safeguarding young people. For face-to-face courses, bio-security protocols have eased, but are still in place for those with vulnerabilities. It is our priority to ensure courses are able to go ahead safely and securely.

Organisational Structure

The Trustees met bi-monthly and responsibility for different roles was assigned to individual Trustees and these Trustees communicate regularly to ensure the trust continues to operate smoothly. With the increased number of courses, the assignment of duties between the music-manager and the Trustees needs to be carefully monitored to ensure resources are adequately marshalled. For music projects, individual project managers are appointed, reducing the trust's ongoing administrative commitment, but enabling resource to be provided at the appropriate time cost-effectively.

As reported last year, Nick Wood, who had been the trust's chair since its inception, stood down from the role in October 2022 and was replaced by John Sheehan, who is currently carrying out both chair and treasurer roles, pending further Trustee recruitment.

Christiane Astridge stood down as a Trustee on 4 July 2023, as she felt conflicted in the role of Trustee, parent to students benefitting from the trust's operations and being an active member of the Bedfordshire Youth Opera ("BYO") production team. The Trustees would like to thank her for her valuable input into the operation of the trust and the useful liaison she provided with the BYO team.

Objectives and Activities

The object of the charity is to advance the education, appreciation, enjoyment and participation in music and the performing arts for school children and people of all ages within the county of Bedfordshire. This geographical limitation does not adequately describe the area within which the trust operates and with the formation of Music Education Hubs a number of years ago, the trust has found itself more closely with young people, not only in Bedfordshire, but from the surrounding area, particularly Milton Keynes. A proposal to extend the area covered by the trust's objects will be put forward at the next meeting of Trustees.

**Report of the Management Committee
For the year ended 30 April 2023**

Achievements and Performance

During the year the charity's activities were focused on continuing to adapt our course offerings to meet the requirements of the current educational and social environment, as a full programme of face-to-face courses was offered. The Trustees consider course offerings to ensure they meet the needs of today's young people.

We continued to work closely with the 4 Music Education Hubs that cover our principal geographical area and have been instrumental in helping these 4 Hubs work more closely together.

BYO staged a full production of Sweeney Todd: The demon barber of Fleet Street. This attracted higher student numbers than had been the case immediately prior to the pandemic and, thanks to the efforts of the whole team, it turned out to be one of the most successful productions of the period that BYO has been operating under the trust's aegis. This success was carried through to the 2023 production of Massenet's Cendrillon, where student numbers were maintained, although audience numbers were lower than for Sweeney Todd, perhaps understandably for a less well-known work.

The charity continues to host the Michael Templeman Memorial Fund which aims to enhance the playing opportunities for young string players by acquiring string instruments and make them available on loan to young students who might otherwise find it hard to buy a suitable instrument and by supporting other activities, such as master classes for string players.

In carrying out these activities we have complied with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission with regard to fulfilling the charity's public benefit duties.

Financial Review

Attendance at youth music courses has returned to the levels being achieved immediately before the pandemic. Consequently, levels of income and related costs have increased. In particular, the BYO production of Sweeney Todd was successful financially, both attracting good levels of voluntary support and higher audience numbers, fully vindicating the foresight of the BYO production team to press for a move to a larger venue at the University of Bedfordshire. The surplus from this year's event is earmarked to support future BYO productions.

Investment Policy

Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the trust has the power to make any investment which the Trustees see fit.

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of the charity to maintain unrestricted funds, which are the free reserves of the charity, at a level which would be sufficient to cover annual management and administration costs and to respond to emergency applications for grants which may arise.

Plans for Future Periods

To fit in with the time demands on young people our courses, with the exception of BYO, are offered principally at half-terms and on some weekends. Our provision for higher-end players and singers is now focussed on the 4 Hubs Orchestra, chamber courses and on the BYO. For younger players we have continued our Orchestral Jamboree course and it is expected that this, alongside other activities for intermediate students, will continue across 2024.

Our website and social media presence are proving to be effective means of communication and the website continues to be a convenient means for securing course bookings.

We will continue to seek new partnerships and develop our role in setting the strategy for music in the County by continuing our partnerships with the Music Education Hubs and delivering services that cross the current Hub boundaries.

**Report of the Management Committee
For the year ended 30 April 2023**

Responsibilities of the Trustees

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees should follow best practice and:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the company will continue on that basis.

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Management Committee is 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.

Trustees

The Trustees, who are directors for the purpose of company law and Trustees for the purpose of charity law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report, are set out on page 1.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) and in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small entities.

Approved by the Trustees on 24 January 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



J P Sheehan
Chair and Treasurer

The Bedfordshire Music Trust (Company Number: 04195243)

Statement of Financial Activities

(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

For the year ended 30 April 2023

	<i>Note</i>	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Incoming resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds:					
<i>Charitable activities</i>					
Music courses					
Student fees		2,700	5,600	8,300	10,605
Ticket and programme sales		1,097	13,515	14,612	7,745
<i>Voluntary income:</i>					
Donations and fundraising		9,372	14,300	23,672	12,761
<i>Activities for generating funds:</i>					
Bank interest receivable		227	-	227	25
Total incoming resources		13,396	33,415	46,811	31,136
Resources expended					
Charitable activities					
<i>Music courses</i>		(14,484)	(28,854)	(43,338)	(24,133)
Governance costs		-	-	-	-
Total resources expended	2	(14,484)	(28,854)	(43,338)	(24,133)
Net movement in funds	7	(1,088)	4,561	3,473	7,003
Total funds brought forward		15,317	13,612	28,929	21,927
Transfers		-	-	-	-
Total funds carried forward		14,229	18,173	32,402	28,930

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

The Bedfordshire Music Trust (Company Number: 04195243)

Balance sheet

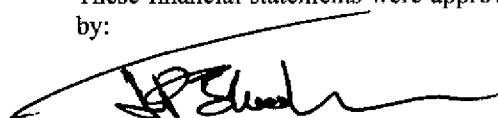
For the year ended 30 April 2023

	<i>Note</i>	2023	2022
		£	£
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets		163	-
Current Assets			
Debtors		5,825	3,991
Cash at bank and in hand		29,500	28,448
		<u>35,325</u>	<u>32,439</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	5	<u>3,086</u>	<u>3,510</u>
Net Current Assets		32,239	28,929
Net Assets		<u>32,402</u>	<u>28,929</u>
Unrestricted funds			
General funds	7	14,229	15,317
Restricted funds	7	18,173	13,612
		<u>32,402</u>	<u>28,929</u>

For the financial year ended 30 April 2023, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476. The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 24 January 2024 and were signed on their behalf by:



J P Sheehan
Chair and Treasurer

The Bedfordshire Music Trust (Company Number: 04195243)

Notes on the Accounts

For the year ended 30 April 2023

1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year and in the preceding year.

(a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities SORP (FRS102).

(b) Fund accounting

- Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
- Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

(c) Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy, except as follows:

- When donors specify that donations given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods.
- When donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included in the incoming resources until the pre-conditions for use have been met.

(d) Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries.
- Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.
- All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource.

(e) Tangible fixed assets

During the year the trust incurred expenditure on equipment, its website and on musical instruments used for the purpose of the trust's activities. Depreciation is charged to write down the cost of the assets over their expected useful lives, except in the year of acquisition. The rate used is 20% per annum.

2. Total Resources Expended

Costs directly allocated to activities	Charitable Activities	Governance	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£
Music Courses	43,338	-	43,338	24,133
Support for youth music projects	-	-	-	-
Total resources expended	<u>43,338</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>43,338</u>	<u>33,747</u>

The Bedfordshire Music Trust (Company Number: 04195243)**Notes on the Accounts****For the year ended 30 April 2023****3. Trustee Remuneration**

The Trustees did not receive any remuneration for their services as Trustees during the year. There has been no reimbursement of expenses incurred nor has the charity paid any indemnity insurance in the year.

4. Taxation

As a charity, The Bedfordshire Music Trust is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or s256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the Trust.

5. Fixed Assets

Cost	Equipment	Website	Musical Instruments
	£	£	£
As at 1 May 2022	305	750	496
Additions/Disposals	217	-	-
As at 30 April 2023	<u>522</u>	<u>750</u>	<u>496</u>
Depreciation			
As at 1 May 2022	305	750	496
Charge for year	54	-	-
As at 30 April 2023	<u>359</u>	<u>750</u>	<u>496</u>
Net Book Value			
At 30 April 2022	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ -</u>
At 30 April 2023	<u>£163</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ -</u>

6. Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Music course fees	4,291	2,048
Prepayments	394	920
Gift Aid claim	1,140	1,023
Total	<u>5,825</u>	<u>3,991</u>

7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals		
Expenses related to holiday music courses	46	1,330
Income received in advance	3,040	2,180
Total	<u>3,086</u>	<u>3,510</u>

The Bedfordshire Music Trust (Company Number: 04195243)

Notes on the Accounts

For the year ended 30 April 2023

8. Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	General Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£
Fixed assets	19	144	163
Current assets	15,856	19,569	35,325
Current liabilities	(1,646)	(1,440)	(3,086)
	<u>14,229</u>	<u>18,173</u>	<u>32,402</u>

9. Movement in Funds

	At 1 May 2022	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	At 30 April 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds:					
Michael Templeman Memorial Fund	9,525	-	-	-	9,525
Beds Youth Opera	4,087	33,415	(28,854)	-	8,648
<i>Total restricted funds</i>	<u>13,612</u>	<u>33,415</u>	<u>(28,854)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,173</u>
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	15,317	13,396	(14,484)	-	15,317
<i>Total unrestricted funds</i>	<u>15,317</u>	<u>13,396</u>	<u>(14,484)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,229</u>
Total funds	<u>28,929</u>	<u>46,811</u>	<u>(43,338)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>32,402</u>

The Bedfordshire Music Trust (Company Number: 04195243)
Independent Examiner's Report
For the year ended 30 April 2023

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

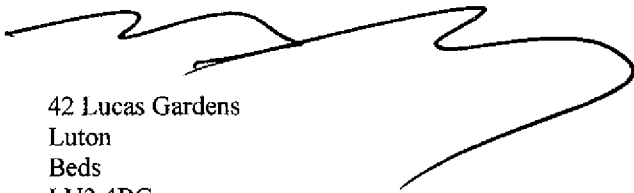
My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act.have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

M. D. LANGLEY



42 Lucas Gardens
Luton
Beds
LU3 4BG

24 January 2024