HASTINGS AND ST LEONARDS FORESHORE CHARITABLE TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 1105649

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	2004-08-26
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Muriel Matters House, Breeds Place, Hastings, East Sussex
Postcode	TN34 3UY
Phone	01424451066
Email	CBARKSHIRE-JONES@HASTINGS.GOV.UK
Website	http://www.hastings.gov.uk/community_living/foreshore_trust/

Activities

Objects: (1) TO HOLD AND MAINTAIN THE CHARITY'S LAND FOR THE OBJECTS SET OUT IN THE TRUSTS OF THE CHARITY, NAMELY FOR THE COMMON USE, BENEFIT AND ENJOYMENT OF ALL HER MAJESTY'S SUBJECTS AND OF THE PUBLIC FOR THE TIME BEING FOR EVER; AND(2) SUBJECT TO SUB-CLAUSE (1) ABOVE, SUCH CHARITABLE PURPOSES WITHIN THE AREA OF THE BOROUGH OF HASTINGS AS THE TRUSTEE THINKS FIT.

Activities: Set out in Trustee's report and financial statements for 2010/11 submitted in October 2011

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

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Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NOT DEFINED. IN PRACTISE EAST SUSSEX
- East Sussex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£1,876,334	£1,626,981	£2,960,095	0
2024-03-31	£1,736,795	£1,589,903	£2,710,742	0
2023-03-31	£1,587,914	£1,527,636	£2,563,851	0
2022-03-31	£1,291,526	£1,480,848	£2,503,573	0
2021-03-31	£1,001,000	£1,120,000	£2,692,895	0

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
HASTINGS BOROUGH COUNCIL		

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HASTINGS AND ST LEONARDS FORESHORE CHARITABLE TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1105649

Accounts

Charity registration number: 1105649

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

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Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Reference and Administrative Details

Chairman	Councillor Tony Collins
Trustee	Hastings Borough Council
Other Officers	Councillor John Cannan, Committee Chair (Appointed 21st October 2022 - Retired 18th January 2024) Councillor Ali Roark, Committee Chair (Appointed 19th January 2024 - Retired 22nd May 2024) Councillor Judy Rogers, Committee Member (Appointed 16 May 2018 - Retired 24th January 2024) Councillor Andy Batsford, Committee Member (Appointed 10 July 2017 - Retired 24th January 2024) Councillor Julia Hilton, Committee Member (Appointed 24th January 2024) Councillor Glenn Haffenden, Committee Member (Appointed 24th January 2024 - Retired 7th July 2025) Councillor Jo Walker, Committee Member (Appointed 7th July 2025)
Bankers	Lloyds Bank 17 Wellington Place Hastings TN31 1NX
Auditor	Manningtons Statutory Auditor 39 High Street Battle, East Sussex TN33 0EE
Protector	James W Cook FCA (Appointed 20th March 2020) The Cottage Rushlake Green Heathfield East Sussex TN21 9QH
Charity Registration Number	1105649

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

The Trustee presents the annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025

Structure Governance and Management

Overview

The governing documents of the Charity are a conveyance from the Crown to Hastings Corporation dated 8 September 1893 and Charity Commission Scheme ref. no, 981/1011 made on 13 January 2011 (the 2011 Scheme).

The 1893 Conveyance provides that the length of foreshore between Ecclesbourne Glen and Grosvenor Gardens shall be held for the common use, benefit and enjoyment of Her Majesty's subjects and the public generally forever. Later conveyances in 1925, 1933 and 1934 conveyed the remainder of the foreshore to the Hastings Corporation on the same Trusts.

The Hastings Borough Council Act 1988 varies the Trust to permit certain uses on delineated areas of land and for the Council to charge for that use, whether provided by the Council itself or by another on the Council's behalf.

The 2011 Scheme extended the objects of the Charity to include such charitable purposes within the Borough of Hastings as the Trustee thinks fit.

The 2011 Scheme had the effect of revoking the Charity Commission Scheme dated 22 March 2006 which appointed independent Trustees and Council nominated Trustees and appointed Hastings Borough Council as the Trustee for all purposes. This report is prepared by the Trustee as required under the 2011 Scheme.

Significant changes

Councillor Ali Roark was appointed to the position of Chair on 19th January 2024 and retired on 22nd May 2024. Councillor Tony Collins was appointed to the position of Chair on 23rd May 2024.

Governance

i) The Trustee

Hastings Borough Council is a principal local authority established under the Local Government Act 1972 and, as such, has corporate status.

As a local authority, the Trustee acts through decisions of elected members and delegations to committees, sub-committees and officers. The Local Government Act 2000 introduced executive decision making and the legislation provided for a split between decisions which are reserved to the Council, to the Executive or according to local choice. Where the function in question is not reserved to Council or a local choice function, the default provision in the legislation is that the function and decision-making relating to it are the preserve of the executive.

This represents the position regarding the Council's function or power to administer charities, that is to say that the administration of charities is an executive function and so only the Cabinet, a committee of Cabinet or officers acting under delegations from Cabinet are legally competent to make decisions relating to the Charity. This means that for the Foreshore Trust, the Council as Trustee, acts through the Charity Committee of Cabinet.

ii) The Protector

When considering the request of the former independent Trustees to appoint the Council as Trustee, the Commission was concerned regarding the potential conflict of interest between the Council's position as charitable Trustee and as local authority and how to address this. Part of the solution was the requirement in the 2011 Scheme for the appointment of a Protector, who is required to be a qualified accountant.

Trustee's Report (continued)

Christopher May, MA, FCA, who was appointed as first Protector completed his third term as Protector on March 19th 2020 and James Cook, FCA was appointed as the New Protector effective from March 20th 2020. The role of the Protector is essentially to act as whistle blower and watchdog against the Council acting in breach of trust and to guard against situations where a conflict of interest is not being managed properly. As a chartered accountant he is equipped to scrutinise the Council's charity accounts. The Protector is required to report any matters of serious concern to the Charity Commission and must prepare an annual report on his activities for inclusion in the Charity's Annual Report.

Consultation

The 2011 Scheme makes provision for consultation in two areas of the Charity's operation. Namely:-

i) Coastal Users' Group: The Trustee is required to consult with and have regard to the recommendations of the Coastal Users' Group (CUG) in relation to certain matters, namely:-

- the standards or specifications for the maintenance of the charity's land.
- the Charity's policy relating to events and activities to be held on the Charity's land and any event/activity outside that policy.
- the Charity's policy relating to the exercise of any power under the Hastings Borough Council Act 1988 or otherwise to manage, let sell or otherwise dispose of the Charity's property, and
- the exercise of the powers under the previous bullet otherwise than in accordance with the agreed policy.

The CUG was an existing consultative group set up by the Council as local authority to consult with interested parties in relation to matters affecting the front line of the Council's area. It became the Coastal Advisory Group as required by the 2011 Scheme after adopting a formal constitution and rules for membership in early 2011. The minutes of its meetings, in so far as they relate to Foreshore Trust matters, are included in the reports submitted to each Charity Committee meeting. The CUG meets before each Charity Committee meeting (four times a year) to consider and comment on reports being submitted to the Charity Committee. The CUG is consulted each time the Foreshore Trust Business Plan is revised.

Trustee's Report (continued)

i) Grant Advisory Panel

The object to distribute surpluses, after meeting the costs of administering the Charity and managing its assets, including the repair and insurance of its land and buildings, through grants for charitable purposes in the Borough, are subject to consultation with the Grant Advisory Panel. The 2011 Scheme provides that consultation is to take place concerning the grant criteria, grant processes and grant determinations. The Grants Advisory Panel successfully concluded the process of the 2024/2025 year's round of grant making, resulting in the payment of grants totalling £173.9k (£72.7k in small grants & £101.2k in large grants).

Trustee's Report (continued)

The following grants were awarded:

Small Grants	**£**
(Serv Sussex) Service by Emergency Rider Volunteers	4,860
A Band of Brothers Hastings	5,400
Bags of Taste Ltd	5,130
Care for the Carers	1,800
City Gate Community Projects - FareShare Sussex and Surrey	1,437
Counselling Plus Community (CPC)	200
East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust Charitable Funds	100
Hastings & Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind	5,396
Hastings and Rother Rainbow Alliance	450
HastIngs Emergency Action Response Team CIO (HEART)	4,824
Hastings International Piano Festival	4,028
Hastings Rec FC	3,474
Karmabank Kitchen	4,633
Lifesize CIC	2,106
Ore Community Library	5,087
Project Rewild - 2023-24 Final 10%	372
Radiator Arts	5,973
Soundcastle Ltd	5,400
St Mary Star of The Sea Community Club	1,683
Tempo Arts - 2023-24 final 10%	269
The Hastings Community Trust	5,319
True You Today CIC	4,788
	72,729
Large Grants	
Change Grow Live (CGL)	11,150
Citizens Advice 1066	31,581
Hastings Advice & Representation Centre (HARC)	21,055
Hastings Voluntary Action (HVA)	17,878
The Links Project (HVA)	5,570
The Seaview Project	14,000
	101,234

Trustee's Report (continued)

At its first meeting on 25 January 2011, the Charity Committee agreed a Scheme of Delegation to Officers. From the 1 April 2012 the Scheme of Delegations has required amending, replacing the Chief Executive with an appropriate Director and his/her nominee as a result of a senior management restructure. The new Scheme of Delegations follows the pattern of the Council's Scheme of Delegations to Officers, in that the appropriate Director or their duly authorised nominee is authorised within the plan and budget agreed by the Charity Committee to undertake the day to day operation and management of the Charity. The authority is general and subject to certain exceptions including the disposal of land, use of the Charity's land for events outside of the agreed policy, grants for charitable purposes and specification for and the award of contracts affecting the Charity, which are all subject to consultation and then the decision of the Charity Committee. The Scheme of Delegation emphasises that the Directors or their nominees acting under the delegations must be mindful that they are acting on behalf of the Charity and not the Council and always ensure that they act in the best interests of the Charity.

The officers authorised for most purposes affecting the Charity's Day to day operation and management are:-

- Victoria Conheady, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Place.
- Kit Wheeler, Chief Finance Officer.
- Amy Terry, Property and Commercial Assets Manager
- Mary Kilner is the Monitoring Officer and the Chief Legal Officer, and is also the Authorised Signatory on behalf of the Charity

In case of actual or potential conflict of interest for officers, independent advisors are instructed on behalf of the Charity e.g. surveyors.

Employment of staff for management of the FST business

The trust, via its sole trustee, has employed the following officers during this financial year:

- Foreshore Trust Compliance and Liaison Officer.
- Playground Capital Project Officer

Training and Induction for the Trustee

Hastings Borough Council is the sole corporate Trustee. The Council exercises its responsibilities through the Charity Committee, comprising elected councillors. Members are appointed in line with Council procedures. Induction and training are provided to councillors to ensure they understand their responsibilities under charity law.

Training has been offered to all members of the Council to raise awareness and to keep them advised.

Risk Management

The charity maintains a risk register and formally reviews this on an annual basis when determining the reserves policy. Initially this identified the key financial risks facing the Trust but continues to be developed to include the identification of all significant risks (it also includes the identification of relevant controls to mitigate and responsibilities).

The principal risks faced by the Trust include volatility in car park income, potential reductions in tourism, and increased maintenance costs due to coastal erosion. These risks are managed through regular monitoring, maintaining adequate reserves, and diversifying income streams where possible.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report (continued)

Objectives

The 2011 Scheme states the objects of the Charity to be:-

(i) to hold and maintain the charity's land for the objects set out in the trusts of the Charity, namely for the common use, benefit and enjoyment of all Her Majesty's subjects and of the public for the time being forever; and

(ii) subject to (i) above, such charitable purposes within the area of the Borough of Hastings as the Trustee thinks fit.

The Scheme expressly provides that income and capital are first to be applied in meeting the proper costs of administering the Charity and of managing its assets including the repair and insurance of its land and buildings. After payment of these costs, the Trustee must apply the remaining income in furthering the objects of the Charity.

Achievements and Performance

During the year, the Trust supported 24 local organisations with grants totalling £173,963. Car parks generated £1.54m in income, with an estimated 289,000 vehicles using Trust facilities. The Stade Hall welcomed approximately 10,000 people through its doors for a range of creative and community activities.

The Charity met five times during the year and the main business was:

- Agreed approval of new leases at White Rock Baths, subject to surveys and contract negotiations
- Approved recommendations of the Grant Advisory Panel in respect of applications for the Small and Events Grants Round 9 2024-25
- Approved the launch of a new large grant programme for a period of three years
- Invited to comment on the Dog Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) Review
- Recruitment of additional staffing (Finance Business Partner, additional Beach Cleaner)
- Recruitment for the position of Protector and members of the Grant Advisory Panel
- Extension to the Public Convenience Cleaning Contract

Grant-making Policy

The Trustee makes grants to local charitable organisations within Hastings. Applications are assessed against published criteria including community benefit, sustainability, and alignment with the Trust's charitable objects. Recommendations are made by the Grant Advisory Panel and approved by the Charity Committee.

Car Parks

The Foreshore Trust derives its income mainly from car parking and property leases/licences, the former income stream being quite variable.

Trustee's Report (continued)

Grounds Maintenance

There are no significant changes to the grounds maintenance service provided on Foreshore Trust land. Since 2023 the service has been operated by HBC's Operational Services team, maintaining the same specification that has been in place since 2016. A review of the grounds maintenance specification is currently being carried out, which will aim to reduce costs and provide more environmentally sustainable planting long-term.

The Stade

Stade Hall is operated by Spun Glass Theatre. Their appointment was agreed at the Charity Committee of 16th November 2023. Spun Glass' plans for the building include reclaiming the original intention for the hall as a vibrant community space, whilst understanding and respecting the significance of its prominent location in the heart of the Old Town and its strong links with the fishing fleet community. Their mission is to open the doors as often as possible and to ensure that Hastonians from all walks of life see Stade Hall as a place where they can stage events, celebrate life changing moments and come together as a community.

The Stade Hall was previously managed and operated by East Sussex College Hastings between January 2019 to January 2024.

Stade open space

This area continues to be used both as a public open space and an events venue.

Maintenance and repair work

During the year a programme of general maintenance was undertaken in line with the spending plan for the year.

Pelham Playground Renewal scheme

At its meeting on 18th September 2023, the Charity Committee agreed to allocate a total budget for £250k for a renewal scheme for the play equipment at the main Pelham playground and to proceed to direct contract award for a playground contractor on a framework available through the East Sussex Procurement Hub. This renewal of Pelham playground has since been undertaken in the 2025/26 financial year.

Promenade and Beach

Lifeguard Service

As a result of the success of the service, at its meeting on 11th December 2023, the Charity Committee agreed to enter into a new five-year contract with the RNLI for provision of a beach lifeguard service for the 2024-2028 (inclusive) seasons.

Quality Coast Award/Blue Flag status

The council continued to achieve the Seaside Award for Pelham beach, and the combined Blue Flag and Seaside Award for Marina beach.

Public Benefit

The objects of the Charity clearly state that the Foreshore is to be held for the benefit of Her Majesty's subjects and the public generally forever. Where the land is beach and beach alone, the objects are achieved by ensuring that the public have free and safe access to the Foreshore. However, maintaining land in proper condition has a cost and the Charity requires an income to meet its expenditure. The Hastings Borough Council Act 1988 varied the original Trusts' to permit certain uses on defined areas of the Trust's land. For example, paid parking was permissible at Rock–a-Nore Car Park and at Pelham Car Park and leisure facilities were permitted in the Stade area.

These variations to the Trust powers enabled the generation of income to meet the costs of maintaining the Foreshore. The uses permitted under the Act, however, are seen as complementary to the Trust objects and the Trustee will exercise its powers under the Act to satisfy the requirement for the benefit of the public.

So far as is possible and subject to the uses permitted under the Act, the aim of the Trustees is that the Foreshore should be accessible by all members of the public who wish to visit it. At the same time, part of the Foreshore is a working beach and so health and safety considerations apply.

The 2011 Scheme included a new object to distribute surpluses as grants for charitable purposes within the Borough of Hastings. There have been seven rounds of small grants the first of which took place in 2011/12. Grants for events on Foreshore Land commenced in 2013/14 and have been repeated annually.

The Trustee has indicated a willingness to undertake further capital works to assets if financially sustainable, which conform to the Trust's objects.

There will be different views on how the public benefit is best achieved and the Charity Committee will continue to consult with the Coastal Users' Group on proposals for the future of the Foreshore and specifications and standards of maintenance and with the Grant Advisory Panel on the grant criteria and grants processes.

In addition, whilst the Council undertook the role as Trustee from January 2011, it has been operating and managing the Foreshore and its assets without interruption over many years. The operations include:

- keeping the Charity's land safe and clean;
- operating the Charity's car parks;
- managing its tenanted premises;
- arranging and facilitating events on the Foreshore;
- undertaking routine maintenance and repair.

Trustee's Report (continued)

Financial Review

Hastings Borough Council, as sole Trustee, confirms that it has assessed the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date of approval of these financial statements. Based on this assessment, the Trustee is satisfied that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence and to meet its liabilities as they fall due.

The annual accounts are attached to this report and have received a qualified audit opinion by external auditors. As the Trust's records are maintained by Hastings Borough Council, an unqualified audit opinion cannot be given until such a time that the Council itself receives the same. This has not been possible in recent years due to the COVID19 pandemic which resulted in a national local audit backlog. The Council has not been in a position to receive an unqualified audit opinion until the current year 2024/25 for which the audit is in progress.

The Trustee acknowledge that this qualification reflects the dependency of the Trust's financial records on Hastings Borough Council's internal accounting systems and the apportionment of certain balances. While this limits the ability of the auditors to provide an unqualified opinion, the Trustee is satisfied that the financial information presented gives a true and fair view of the Trust's activities and has been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

The Trust's main sources of income remain that of car parking fees and charges and rental income from property. The expenditure that the Trust incurs is as a result of providing the car parks e.g. operating costs, and the costs of maintaining and developing the foreshore.

Investments - The Trustee's policy is to invest surplus funds in low-risk, liquid investments to safeguard capital and generate a modest return. Investments are reviewed annually to ensure they remain appropriate to the charity's risk appetite and ethical considerations.

Investments – The Trust retains significant cash balances. At 31 March 2025 these were invested as follows:-

	2023/24	2024/25
	£	£
CCLA Investment Management	1,853,083	1,943,697
Lloyds Bank (the Trust's Bank Account)	556	607

The following table compares the major elements of the budget to the actual income and expenditure for the financial year:-

Trustee's Report (continued)

Statement of Financial Activities	Budget 2024/25 £'000	Actual Outturn 2024/25 £'000
Incoming Resources		
Investment Income	12	91
Incoming resources from Charitable Activities	1,500	1,538
Rental Income	243	247
Total Incoming Resources	**1,755**	**1,876**
Resources Expended		
Loan repayments	33	33
Charitable Activities (excluding capital charges)	1,002	1,268
Maintenance projects and cyclical repairs	123	58
Governance costs	184	94
Total Resources Expended	**1,342**	**1,453**
Total Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	**413**	**423**
Small / Event Grants	90	73
Events Sustainability	20	-
Large Grants	181	101
Projects	25	-
Surplus/(Deficit) before depreciation	**97**	**249**

The surplus before grants and reserve funded items and capital charges was £423,316.

The overall outturn position was a surplus of £249,353 and capital charges were £73,491.

Future Expenditure Plans 2025/26 and Beyond

In line with the approved Business plan, expenditure on major Projects and Other Expenditure will continue in 2025/26 and will result in an overall forecast deficit for the year of £16,284.

Future business plan projects commencing in 2025/26 include various repairs and maintenance works to car parks, maintenance of various systems at Stade Open Space and renewal and improvements to the Pelham Playground and equipment.

The 2025/26 budget identified spend on projects and other expenditure amounting to some £472,110. £206,060 of this spend being for cyclical repairs and maintenance, £16,050 was a contingency for coastal responsive repairs and £250,000 was programmed spend, financed from Reserves. The areas of spend were as follows:-

- £250,000 – Pelham Playground renewal project
- £41,000 – Car park routine maintenance and repairs (lighting, barriers, cleaning gullies and car park information and direction signage).
- £2,675 – Promenade adult exercise equipment
- £2,160 – Winch Road maintenance

- £27,820 – Maintenance of play area equipment and MUGA
- £11,350 – Chalets maintenance and roof re-felting
- £8,560 – White Rock promenade fountain maintenance and operation
- £26,980 – White Rock Baths external decoration
- £24,610 – White Rock Baths maintenance and contract costs
- £4,000 - Cycle hire hut roof maintenance
- £12,000 – Maintenance of public conveniences
- £24,085 – Stade area maintenance and repairs
- £16,050 – Coastal works contingency – responsive repairs to assets
- £1,570 – White Rock Promenade repairs and maintenance to benches, decking and waste bins
- £500 - Seafront finger posts – redecoration and repair
- £2,700 – Stade Beach floodlighting
- £16,050 - Foreshore Trust Land – routine maintenance and repairs of signage and surfacing

Further details of future spending plans are available via the Council website, within the Charity Committee reports published. These can be found at https://hastings.moderngov.co.uk

Cost of Professional Advice

Legal and professional fees (including Protector's fees) - £77,974 (2023/24 £81,629).

Auditors/Accountants - £6,531 (2023/24 £8,890).

Trustee Expenses and Emoluments

There were no Trustee expenses charged to the Trust in 2024/25 (2023/24 nil).

A special responsibility allowance of £6,945 (2023/24 £6,945) was paid to the Chair of the Charity Committee and this is shown as Governance costs in the accounts.

Reserves Policy

The last review took place on 24 September 2018, and no significant changes have since required an update. Reserves are held for several purposes, and the key elements of the Policy are outlined below. The policy will be reviewed in the 2025/26 financial year to reflect any changes in the Trust's future plans and risks profile.

a) £100,000 is to be retained for an unforeseen emergency or other unexpected need. This amount is arrived at after considering risks and how much might be needed for such contingencies; this involves judgment of events that may occur and their likelihood.

b) Expenditure budget - a small contingency fund to meet unforeseen operational costs. The expenditure budget is some £1.2m. It is suggested that a 10% contingency (say £100,000) be retained for unexpected and unforeseen operational expenditure.

c) Uncertainty over future income. Most well-run organisations retain reserves equivalent to a number of weeks or months of equivalent income to allow time to develop new sources of income or to cut back on related expenditure. Potential significant loss of income could result from a downturn in economic activity or an increase in fuel costs resulting in fewer tourists, a major disaster in the area, bad weather, pollution incident, or loss of reputation e.g. bathing water deterioration, etc. It is recommended that the equivalent of 6 months income be retained to cater for this risk which would amount to around £700,000.

d) Planned spending commitments which cannot be met from future income would imply a need for a specific sum to be set aside, often this amount will be included within designations in the accounts. Given the predicted surplus for each year there is scope to include some of the recurring planned expenditure within the annual budget. There are higher cost initiatives e.g. resurfacing of car parks, roadways etc., that will necessitate identification and retention of significant sums within the accounts.

e) Cash Flow – organisations require a working balance to cover 'troughs' in the cash budget. Based on the financial year the cash flow is expected to be positive throughout the year i.e. income generated should exceed expenditure. Where significant one off expenditure is incurred e.g. resurfacing, use of reserves would be used to cover any shortfalls. As such no sum is set aside for this specific purpose – especially given the sums detailed above (a to d).

a) In summary the Reserves to be retained amount to :-

Ref.	Risk Area/ Designated Funds	Amount (£)
a)	Unforeseen emergency/event	100,000
b)	Unforeseen operational costs/contingency	100,000
c)	Uncertainty on Income streams	700,000
	Total	**900,000**

Plus Planned Spending Commitments e.g. repairs and other initiatives identified within the business plan.

The total funds of the Trust, of which the above form a part, amount to £2,960,095 (2023/24 £2,710,742). The financing of the main programme is dependent upon achieving annual surpluses on the trust's main activities, given the level of Reserves being retained.

Plans for the Future

The Charity Committee looks to review its Business Plan on a regular basis to take account of known variations in resources and new opportunities and commitments. Subject to the Scheme's predetermination that meeting the cost of the administration and the repair and maintenance of its existing assets is the first priority; this will involve consideration of proposals for enhancing income generation and/or reducing operating expenditure as well as providing better facilities and attractions for the public benefit.

The current business plan is continually reviewed and updated on an ongoing basis.

Accountants, Auditors and Bankers

The Trust has been grateful for the excellent work of Manningtons (Auditors) in carrying out the audit of the Trust's accounts.

The Trust's monies are managed by the Council. The bankers are Lloyds Bank, which is the same as the Council with separate bank accounts. The Council's comprehensive Treasury Management and Investment Policy requirements equally apply when dealing with Trust monies.

Concluding Remarks

The Trust continues to concentrate efforts on ensuring a secure and viable future for the Trust, especially in terms of maintaining and improving its assets, managing its available resources for the long term benefit of the community, and also in the distribution of grants to the benefit of the Community - as resources permit.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report (continued)

Statement of Responsibilities

The trustee is responsible for preparing the trustee's report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities requires the trustee to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustee is 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustee is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustee is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Disclosure of information to auditor

The trustee has taken steps that it ought to have taken as a member in order to make itself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information. The trustee confirms that there is no relevant information that is known of and of which they know the auditor is unaware.

The annual report is signed on ..... on behalf of the trustee by:

.....

Councillor Tony Collins

Chair of Charity Committee

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Protector's Report 2024/25

This is my fifth full Annual Report as Protector of The Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust ("Foreshore Trust") since my appointment on 20th March 2020.

The rules of the Foreshore Trust call for the appointment of a Protector to safeguard the proper management of this charitable trust and, in particular, the resolution of any conflicts of interest that may arise from time to time between Hastings Borough Council ("HBC") acting as Trustee of this charity and HBC acting in its capacity as local authority. To this end, the rules provide that the general duty of the Protector is "to ensure the integrity of the administration of the charity", in other words to act as a watchdog over the activities of HBC's Charity Committee in managing the affairs of the Foreshore Trust.

(1) I have attended all meetings of the Charity Committee.

(2) Under the constitution of the Foreshore Trust the Trustee must consult two advisory bodies: (1) a nominated consultative and advisory group (currently the Coastal Users' Group - "CUG") in relation to major foreshore management issues, and (2) the Grants Advisory Panel ("GAP") which deals with the detailed process of recommending grants to be made by the Trustee under powers given in the Scheme. The Protector is entitled to attend the meetings of these groups and I have attended all meetings of the CUG and also those of the Charity Planning Committee which discusses the recommendations of the GAP

(3) Following the extension of the Trust's charitable activities, having ceased to make contributions under the Community Partnership Fund as from April 2021, The Foreshore Trust has extended its establishment of a "Large Grant Programme" with charitable objectives similar in many respects to those of the Community Partnership Fund. The new programme has resulted in the award of grants totaling £173.9k in 2024/25, made up of £72.7k in small grants and £101.2k in large grants. Further grants will be committed in the two subsequent years. Members of the Charity Committee and senior HBC officers have been at pains to ensure that:
(a) The activities of the Large Grant Programme are genuinely charitable in nature;
(b) Grant recommendations to the members of the Charity Committee will be made by the GAP, not by the HBC officers previously responsible for making Community Partnership Fund recommendations, though they are available in an advisory capacity to the GAP;
(c) Procedures have been introduced to ensure that all eligible applications are placed before the GAP, and any applications considered ineligible by HBC staff members are reported to and considered by the GAP;
(d) Potential conflicts of interest issues will continue to be properly addressed and resolved - these might relate to Charity Committee or GAP members with personal involvement with particular charities. Following these developments, the Charity Commission was requested for a minor amendment to the 2011 Scheme to allow for the appointment of two extra members of the GAP to cope with the extra work load, and this was granted and implemented.

(4) During the period to which this report relates, I have been satisfied as Protector that the Trustee (HBC), acting through its Charity Committee, has satisfactorily ensured the integrity of the administration of the affairs of the Foreshore Trust, as required by the current Scheme of constitution.

James W Cook FCA
Protector
Date: .....

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2025, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement, 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 United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the basis for qualified opinion section of our report, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its 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 Charities Act 2011.

Basis for qualified opinion on financial statements

We were unable to obtain sufficient audit evidence pertaining to the source data of transactions of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust at 31 March 2025. All bookkeeping is maintained in-house by Hastings Borough Council (HBC) and apportionment of various costs and income are based on actual ownership of land by the Charity. The income and expenditure is managed by HBC and is transacted via their bank accounts.

We are able to verify all rents due, grants received, interest received and review the other income streams for expectation and reasonableness. Similarly we are able to verify related costs, however all evidence provided is in the name of HBC and not of the charity.

The auditors of HBC have not yet completed their audit of the year ending 31st March 2025. A disclaimer of opinion for the accounts for the year ending 31st March 2024 was published and highlighted significant control deficiencies in HBC's financial accounting and record keeping. Therefore no comfort can be obtained from their published accounts for the same or earlier period.

Qualified opinion on the financial statements

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its 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 Charities Act 2011.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust (continued)

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 responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity 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 qualified opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustee 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 charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the original financial statements were authorised for issue.

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

Other information

The trustee is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. 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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Except for the matter described in the basis for qualified opinion section of our report, in the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustee's Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Report) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust (continued)

- 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 financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustee remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustee

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustee Responsibilities [set out on page], the trustee is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustee 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 trustee is responsible for assessing the charity'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 trustee either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor 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.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust (continued)

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 extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

The detection of fraud and irregularities is a primary consideration of the audit planning and is carried through to the audit completion stage. A risk assessment and preliminary analytical review is undertaken at the planning stage and areas of concern are then built into the audit strategy and testing to ensure sufficient procedures and evidence is obtained to give comfort that material irregularities and potential instances of fraud are detected where possible.

The audit team is briefed regarding any areas or concern, the potential audit risks and consequential impact. The audit team remained vigilant throughout their work and made enquiries of key management personnel throughout.

Key management were consulted on any known or suspected breaches in laws and regulations along with misappropriation of funds at both the planning and completion stages of the audit. Due consideration was given to the possible use of management override and this was built into our audit strategy.

The purpose of the preliminary analytical review of the financial statements is to highlight any possible areas of concern to investigate whether the variance is expected or unexpected, based on the information obtained as part of the planning process and the current climate the charity is operating under. Relevant audit tests had then been planned to obtain supporting documentation to ensure that they are within the charitable objectives and no misappropriation of funds by way of fraud, or misstatements. Latest accounts disclosure checklists available are also completed to ensure the accounts comply with the latest reporting framework that is applicable to the charity.

There are aspects of the audit which are deliberately unpredictable to assist in the detection of irregularities, such as varying how we test items which are more susceptible to fraud, year on year and by incorporating systematic sampling over the populations tested.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council’s website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor’s report.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust (continued)

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Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust (continued)

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity trustee, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the trustee those matters we are required to state to trustee in an auditors' 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 charity and its trustee as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

.....
Rowena Walsh FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Manningtons, Statutory Auditor

39 High Street
Battle, East Sussex
TN33 0EE

Date:.....

Manningtons is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2025 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Charitable activities	2	1,785,669	1,785,669
Investment income	3	90,665	90,665
Total Income		1,876,334	1,876,334
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	4	(1,532,766)	(1,532,766)
Governance costs	5	(94,215)	(94,215)
Total Expenditure		(1,626,981)	(1,626,981)
Net movement in funds		249,353	249,353
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		2,710,742	2,710,742
Total funds carried forward	15	2,960,095	2,960,095

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Charitable activities	2	1,648,961	1,648,961
Investment income	3	87,834	87,834
Total Income		1,736,795	1,736,795
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	4	(1,490,108)	(1,490,108)
Governance costs	5	(99,795)	(99,795)
Total Expenditure		(1,589,903)	(1,589,903)
Net movement in funds		146,892	146,892
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		2,563,850	2,563,850
Total funds carried forward	15	2,710,742	2,710,742

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

(Registration number: 1105649)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	865,478	938,969
Current assets			
Debtors	11	201,270	9,860
Cash at bank and in hand	12	1,944,304	1,853,639
		2,145,574	1,863,499
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	(50,957)	(59,446)
Net current assets		2,094,617	1,804,053
Total assets less current liabilities		2,960,095	2,743,022
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	14	-	(32,280)
Net assets		2,960,095	2,710,742
Funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		2,960,095	2,710,742
Total funds	15	2,960,095	2,710,742

The financial statements on pages 22 to 38 were approved by the trustee, and authorised for issue on ..... and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Councillor Tony Collins
Chairman

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash income		249,353	146,892
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Depreciation		73,491	73,491
Investment income	3	(90,665)	(87,834)
		232,179	132,549
Working capital adjustments			
Increase in debtors	11	(191,410)	(103,811)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	13	(9,018)	2,495
Net cash flows from operating activities		31,751	31,233
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest receivable and similar income	3	90,665	87,834
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayment of loans and borrowings	13	(31,751)	(31,232)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		90,665	87,835
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		1,853,639	1,765,804
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		1,944,304	1,853,639

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

Going concern

The trustee considers that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Judgements

As outlined in Note 17, Hastings Borough Council acts as the sole trustee for the Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust. The scheme is so constituted as to prevent the Council from obtaining any benefit from the Trust's activities and no group accounts are produced. Further details of the transactions with the Council are given in Note 17.

The Statement of Accounts contains estimated figures that are based on assumptions made by the Trust about the future or that are otherwise uncertain. Estimates are made taking into account historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors. However, because balances cannot be determined with certainty, actual results could be materially different from the assumptions and estimates.

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives taking into account residual values, where appropriate. The actual lives of the assets and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. In re-assessing asset lives, factors such as the effect of the elements, maintenance programmes and past experience are taken into account. The carrying amount is £865,478 (2024 -£938,969).

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Investment income

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

Charitable activities

Income from charitable activities includes income recognised as earned (as the related goods or services are provided) under contract.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Grant expenditure

Grants payable are payments made to third parties in the furtherance of the charitable objectives. Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SoFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specific service or output.

Grants payable without performance conditions are only recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made and there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the charity.

Grant provisions

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

Governance costs

Governance costs include costs of the preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and the cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £500.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

The land comprising the foreshore of Hastings and St Leonards was sold to the Trust by the Crown in September 1893 for £400 and subsequent purchases between 1925 and 1934 for a further £630. No valuation of this land has ever been carried out and it is recorded at cost. Land valued at £95,000 was acquired in 2010 as part of a land swap with Hastings Borough Council. Additional expenditure of £119,490 in 2013 represents the cost of creating additional car parking spaces within the Pelham Place car park. This is being depreciated over 15 years, being the estimated time before re-surfacing becomes necessary. The trustee is of the opinion that the open market value is materially in excess of the carrying value of the land.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Land	not depreciated
Pelham Place car park additional spaces	over 15 years straight line
White Rock Baths	over 50 years straight line
Winch Road Upgrade	over 15 years straight line
Plant and equipment	over 5 and 15 years straight line

Debtors

Are amounts due from Hastings Borough Council for settlement of expenditure incurred by the Trust that is to be repaid and is recognised initially at the transaction price. A provision for the impairment of it will be established when there is objective evidence that the Trust will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the charity has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustee discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside for specific purposes at the discretion of the trustees.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Staff and pension schemes

The charity has no employees but is charged the relevant portion of those undertaking work in pursuance of the charity's objectives. These are employed by Hastings Borough Council and have the choice of being in the relevant defined benefit local government pension scheme.

2 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Car parking	1,538,202	1,538,202	1,401,265
Foreshore management	246,788	246,788	246,918
Public conveniences	679	679	778
	1,785,669	1,785,669	1,648,961

3 Investment income

	Unrestricted General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	90,665	90,665	87,834
	90,665	90,665	87,834

4 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Car Parking	510,200	510,200	506,667
Foreshore management	667,406	667,406	599,870
Street cleansing	11,945	11,945	14,474
Public convieiences	169,252	169,252	179,205
Small end events grants	173,963	173,963	189,892
	1,532,766	1,532,766	1,490,108

5 Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Staff costs			
Wages and salaries	6,945	6,945	6,945
Audit fees			
Audit of the financial statements	4,131	4,131	6,390
Other fees paid to auditors	2,400	2,400	2,500
Legal fees	19,744	19,744	23,399
Other governance costs	2,765	2,765	2,331
HBC Management charges	58,230	58,230	58,230
	94,215	94,215	99,795

6 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming resources for the year include:

	2025 £	2024 £
Audit fees	4,131	6,390
Depreciation of fixed assets	73,491	73,491

7 Trustee remuneration and expenses

Payments to the Trustee related entirely to recharges of costs incurred by HBC on behalf of the charity. These included a payment by HBC to the Chair of the Charity Committee of HBC by way of a responsibility allowance from the Council of £6,945 (2024 - £6,945), included in Governance costs.

8 Staff costs

The Trust does not directly employ any staff. As such no employee received emoluments of more that £60,000 during the year

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £84,411 (2024 - £65,369).

9 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from Corporation Tax.

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Plant and equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2024	1,144,091	573,843	1,717,934
At 31 March 2025	1,144,091	573,843	1,717,934
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2024	346,155	432,810	778,965
Charge for the year	40,514	32,977	73,491
At 31 March 2025	386,669	465,787	852,456
Net book value			
At 31 March 2025	757,422	108,056	865,478
At 31 March 2024	797,936	141,033	938,969

11 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Other amounts owed by Hastings Borough Council	201,270	9,860

12 Cash and cash equivalents

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash at bank	1,944,304	1,853,639

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other loans	32,280	31,751
Accruals	18,677	27,695
	50,957	59,446

14 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Loans from Hastings Borough Council	-	32,280

The amount is the long term portion of the £300,000 annuity loan. The loan is at 1.66%, and has biannual payments.

For the £300,000 annuity loan, to limit the potential impact on the Trust, the Council shared the risk on a 50:50 basis. For clarity, the annual borrowing costs for the year ending 31 March 2025 were £932 (2024: £1,452), if the venture failed the amount payable per annum by the Trust would be reduced by 50%. If a new tenant was found at that time but the rental stream achieved was lower, then the shortfall would be shared.

15 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Unrestricted funds					
General					
Unappropriated reserve	-	1,876,334	(1,626,981)	(249,353)	-
Designated					
Contingency reserve	900,000	-	-	-	900,000
Main programme reserve	871,774	-	-	322,844	1,194,618
Fixed asset fund	938,968	-	-	(73,491)	865,477
	2,710,742	-	-	249,353	2,960,095
Total funds	2,710,742	1,876,334	(1,626,981)	-	2,960,095

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
General					
Unappropriated reserve	-	1,736,795	(1,589,903)	(146,892)	-
Designated					
Contingency reserve	900,000	-	-	-	900,000
Main programme reserve	651,391	-	-	220,383	871,774
Fixed asset fund	1,012,459	-	-	(73,491)	938,968
	2,563,850	-	-	146,892	2,710,742
Total funds	2,563,850	1,736,795	(1,589,903)	-	2,710,742

15 Funds (continued)

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

The Main programme reserve is held to fund the Trust's business plan initiatives and significant items of repair and maintenance that cannot be financed in a single year.

The Fixed asset fund is created to recognise that an equivalent amount of reserves has already been used, and is not available for further use.

The Unappropriated reserve represents all monies for which a specific purpose remains to be determined.

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds Designated £	Total funds at 31 March 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	865,478	865,478
Current assets	2,145,574	2,145,574
Current liabilities	(50,957)	(50,957)
Total net assets	2,960,095	2,960,095

	Unrestricted funds Designated £	Total funds at 31 March 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	938,969	938,969
Current assets	1,863,499	1,863,499
Current liabilities	(59,446)	(59,446)
Creditors over 1 year	(32,280)	(32,280)
Total net assets	2,710,742	2,710,742

17 Related party transactions

During the year the charity made the following related party transactions:

Hastings Borough Council
(Trustee)
Hastings Borough Council is the sole Trustee of the charity. The Council provides administrative, financial, and property management services to the Trust. Costs incurred for these services are recharged to the Trust at cost and are disclosed within Note 7 (Governance Costs) and Note 8 (Staff Costs).

During the year ended 31 March 2025, recharges from Hastings Borough Council amounted to £58,230 (2024: £58,230).

The Foreshore Trust took a loan in 2016 from Hastings Borough Council to allow it to fund the conversion of White Rock Baths as a BMX centre and café.

The property belongs to the Foreshore Trust and the loan granted by Hastings Borough Council for £300,000 was for a ten year period. The Building has been leased to The Source for a period of ten years and the rental income generated will contribute to the repayment of the loan principal and interest.

The loan is repayable in biannual payments. The £300,000 annuity loan being at 1.66%, and the first payment being made on the 21st September 2016.

For the former, to limit the potential impact on the Trust, the Council would share the risk on a 50:50 basis. For clarity, the annual borrowing costs for the year during 31st March 2025 were £943 (2024: £1,452), if the venture failed the amount payable per annum by the Trust would be reduced by 50%. If a new tenant was found at that time but the rental stream achieved was lower, then the shortfall would be shared.

No other related party transactions requiring disclosure under the Charities SORP (FRS 102) were identified. At the balance sheet date the amount due from Hastings Borough Council was £168,991 (2024 - £54,170 due to).

HASTINGS AND ST LEONARDS FORESHORE CHARITABLE TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1105649

Accounts

Charity registration number: 1105649

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

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Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Reference and Administrative Details

Chairman	Councillor Tony Collins
Trustee	Hastings Borough Council
Other Officers	Councillor John Cannan, Committee Chair *(Appointed 21st October 2022 - Retired 18th January 2024)* Councillor Ali Roark, Committee Chair *(Appointed 19th January 2024 - Retired 22nd May 2024)* Councillor Judy Rogers, Committee Member *(Appointed 16 May 2018 - Retired 24th January 2024)* Councillor Andy Batsford, Committee Member *(Appointed 10 July 2017 - Retired 24th January 2024)* Councillor Julia Hilton, Committee Member *(Appointed 24th January 2024)* Councillor Glenn Haffenden, Committee Member *(Appointed 24th January 2024)*
Bankers	Lloyds Bank 17 Wellington Place Hastings TN31 1NX
Auditor	Manningtons Statutory Auditor 39 High Street Battle, East Sussex TN33 0EE
Protector	James W Cook FCA (Appointed 20th March 2020) The Cottage Rushlake Green Heathfield East Sussex TN21 9QH
Charity Registration Number	1105649

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

The Trustee presents the annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Structure Governance and Management

Overview

The governing documents of the Charity are a conveyance from the Crown to Hastings Corporation dated 8 September 1893 and Charity Commission Scheme ref. no, 981/1011 made on 13 January 2011 (the 2011 Scheme).

The 1893 Conveyance provides that the length of foreshore between Ecclesbourne Glen and Grosvenor Gardens shall be held for the common use, benefit and enjoyment of Her Majesty's subjects and the public generally forever. Later conveyances in 1925, 1933 and 1934 conveyed the remainder of the foreshore to the Hastings Corporation on the same Trusts.

The Hastings Borough Council Act 1988 varies the Trust to permit certain uses on delineated areas of land and for the Council to charge for that use, whether provided by the Council itself or by another on the Council's behalf.

The 2011 Scheme extended the objects of the Charity to include such charitable purposes within the Borough of Hastings as the Trustee thinks fit.

The 2011 Scheme had the effect of revoking the Charity Commission Scheme dated 22 March 2006 which appointed independent Trustees and Council nominated Trustees and appointed Hastings Borough Council as the Trustee for all purposes. This report is prepared by the Trustee as required under the 2011 Scheme.

Significant changes

Councillor John Cannan was appointed to the position of Chair on 21st October 2022 and retired on 18th January 2024. Councillor Ali Roark was appointed to the position of Chair on 19th January 2024 and retired on 22nd May 2024. Councillor Tony Collins was appointed to the position of Chair on 23rd May 2024.

Governance

i) The Trustee

ii) The Protector

Hastings Borough Council is a principal local authority established under the Local Government Act 1972 and, as such, has corporate status.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

As a local authority, the Trustee acts through decisions of elected members and delegations to committees, sub-committees and officers. The Local Government Act 2000 introduced executive decision making and the legislation provided for a split between decisions which are reserved to the Council, to the Executive or according to local choice. Where the function in question is not reserved to Council or a local choice function, the default provision in the legislation is that the function and decision-making relating to it are the preserve of the executive.

This represents the position regarding the Council's function or power to administer charities, that is to say that the administration of charities is an executive function and so only the Cabinet, a committee of Cabinet or officers acting under delegations from Cabinet are legally competent to make decisions relating to the Charity. This means that for the Foreshore Trust, the Council as Trustee, acts through the Charity Committee of Cabinet.

When considering the request of the former independent Trustees to appoint the Council as Trustee, the Commission was concerned regarding the potential conflict of interest between the Council's position as charitable Trustee and as local authority and how to address this. Part of the solution was the requirement in the 2011 Scheme for the appointment of a Protector, who is required to be a qualified accountant.

Christopher May, MA, FCA, who was appointed as first Protector completed his third term as Protector on March 19th 2020 and James Cook, FCA was appointed as the New Protector effective from March 20th 2020. The role of the Protector is essentially to act as whistle blower and watchdog against the Council acting in breach of trust and to guard against situations where a conflict of interest is not being managed properly. As a chartered accountant he is equipped to scrutinise the Council's charity accounts. The Protector is required to report any matters of serious concern to the Charity Commission and must prepare an annual report on his activities for inclusion in the Charity's Annual Report.

Consultation

The 2011 Scheme makes provision for consultation in two areas of the Charity's operation. Namely:-

i) Coastal Users' Group: The Trustee is required to consult with and have regard to the recommendations of the Coastal Users' Group (CUG) in relation to certain matters, namely:-

- the standards or specifications for the maintenance of the charity's land.
- the Charity's policy relating to events and activities to be held on the Charity's land and any event/activity outside that policy.
- the Charity's policy relating to the exercise of any power under the Hastings Borough Council Act 1988 or otherwise to manage, let sell or otherwise dispose of the Charity's property, and
- the exercise of the powers under the previous bullet otherwise than in accordance with the agreed policy.

The CUG was an existing consultative group set up by the Council as local authority to consult with interested parties in relation to matters affecting the front line of the Council's area. It became the Coastal Advisory Group as required by the 2011 Scheme after adopting a formal constitution and rules for membership in early 2011. The minutes of its meetings, in so far as they relate to Foreshore Trust matters, are included in the reports submitted to each Charity Committee meeting. The CUG meets before each Charity Committee meeting (four times a year) to consider and comment on reports being submitted to the Charity Committee. The CUG is consulted each time the Foreshore Trust Business Plan is revised.

ii) Grant Advisory Panel

The object to distribute surpluses, after meeting the costs of administering the Charity and managing its assets, including the repair and insurance of its land and buildings, through grants for charitable purposes in the Borough, are subject to consultation with the Grant Advisory Panel. The 2011 Scheme provides that consultation is to take place concerning the grant criteria, grant processes and grant determinations. The Grants Advisory Panel successfully concluded the process of the 2023/2024 year's round of grant making, resulting in the award of grants totalling £189.9k (£21k in Small grants & £169.9k in large grants).

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

The following grants were awarded:

Small Grants	**£**
Cruse Bereavement Support East Sussex	3,041
In2play CIC - final 10%	590
Stop Look Listen CIC	5,991
Hastings City of Sanctuary (public name Hastings Community of Sanctuary)	3,000
Sweetshop Revolution CIC	3,950
Counselling Plus Community - first 90%	1,800
The Sussex Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus - first 90%	1,080
ETC Sussex (Education Training Consortium Sussex)	600
Umbrella Sussex	287
XTRAX (Hastings & Rother)	160
Paediatric Diabetes Community team - first 10%	900
Hastings & St.Leonards Voluntary Lifeguard Club	1,800
2022-23 Small Grants Accrual Reversals	-2,183
Total	**21,016**

	£
Change Grow Live (CGL)	22,300
Citizens Advice 1066	31,581
Hastings Advice & Representation Centre (HARC)	48,108
Hastings Voluntary Action (HVA)	49,165
The Links Project (HVA)	11,140
The Seaview Project	28,600
2022-23 Accruals Reversals	-22,018
Large Grants	**168,876**

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

Delegation to Officers

At its first meeting on 25 January 2011, the Charity Committee agreed a Scheme of Delegation to Officers. From the 1 April 2012 the Scheme of Delegations has required amending, replacing the Chief Executive with an appropriate Director and his/her nominee as a result of a senior management restructure. The new Scheme of Delegations follows the pattern of the Council's Scheme of Delegations to Officers, in that the appropriate Director or their duly authorised nominee is authorised within the plan and budget agreed by the Charity Committee to undertake the day to day operation and management of the Charity. The authority is general and subject to certain exceptions including the disposal of land, use of the Charity's land for events outside of the agreed policy, grants for charitable purposes and specification for and the award of contracts affecting the Charity, which are all subject to consultation and then the decision of the Charity Committee. The Scheme of Delegation emphasises that the Directors or their nominees acting under the delegations must be mindful that they are acting on behalf of the Charity and not the Council and always ensure that they act in the best interests of the Charity.

The officers authorised for most purposes affecting the Charity's Day to day operation and management are:-

- Victoria Conheady, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Place.
- Kit Wheeler, Chief Finance Officer.
- Amy Terry, Property and Commercial Assets Manager
- Mary Kilner is the Monitoring Officer and the Chief Legal Officer, and is also the Authorised Signatory on behalf of the Charity

In case of actual or potential conflict of interest for officers, independent advisors are instructed on behalf of the Charity e.g. surveyors.

Employment of staff for management of the FST business

The trust, via its sole trustee, has employed the following officers during this financial year:

- Foreshore Trust Compliance and Liaison Officer.

Training and Induction for the Trustee

Training is provided for members and officers covering training on the history of the Trust, the constitutional documentation of the Trust and how to put those into effect.

Training has been offered to all members of the Council to raise awareness and to keep them advised.

Risk Management

The charity maintains a risk register and formally reviews this on an annual basis when determining the reserves policy. Initially this identified the key financial risks facing the Trust but continues to be developed to include the identification of all significant risks (it also includes the identification of relevant controls to mitigate and responsibilities).

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

Objectives

The 2011 Scheme states the objects of the Charity to be:-

(i) to hold and maintain the charity's land for the objects set out in the trusts of the Charity, namely for the common use, benefit and enjoyment of all Her Majesty's subjects and of the public for the time being forever; and

(ii) subject to (i) above, such charitable purposes within the area of the Borough of Hastings as the Trustee thinks fit.

The Scheme expressly provides that income and capital are first to be applied in meeting the proper costs of administering the Charity and of managing its assets including the repair and insurance of its land and buildings. After payment of these costs, the Trustee must apply the remaining income in furthering the objects of the Charity.

Achievements and Performance

The Charity met five times during the year and the main business was:

- Agreement of the budget for 2024/25 and financial report.
- Renewal of the Pelham Place Play Park.
- Evaluation of the Foreshore Trust Large Grant programme.
- The new management of Stade Hall.
- The renewal of the RNLI contract for beach lifeguard provision for a further five years.

Car Parks

The Foreshore Trust derives its income mainly from car parking and property leases/licences, the former income stream being quite variable.

Grounds Maintenance

There are no significant changes to the grounds maintenance service provided on Foreshore Trust land. Since 2023 the service has been operated by HBC's Operational Services team, maintaining the same specification that has been in place since 2016. A review of the grounds maintenance specification is currently being carried out, but it is unlikely to impact Foreshore Trust land.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

The Stade

Stade Hall is now operated by Spun Glass Theatre. Their appointment was agreed at the Charity Committee of 16th November 2023. Spun Glass' plans for the building include reclaiming the original intention for the hall as a vibrant community space, whilst understanding and respecting the significance of its prominent location in the heart of the Old Town and its strong links with the fishing fleet community. Their mission is to open the doors as often as possible and to ensure that Hastonians from all walks of life see Stade Hall as a place where they can stage events, celebrate life changing moments and come together as a community.

The Stade Hall was managed and operated by East Sussex College Hastings from January 2019 to January 2024.

Stade open space

This area continues to be used both as a public open space and an events venue.

Maintenance and repair work

During the year resurfacing works were carried out on footpaths along with repairs to barriers and railings. The artwork to columns at Bottle Alley was reinstated.

Pelham Playground Renewal scheme

At its meeting on 18th September 2023, the Charity Committee agreed to allocate a budget for £225k for a renewal scheme for the play equipment at the main Pelham playground and to proceed to direct contract award for a playground contractor on a framework available through the East Sussex Procurement Hub.

Promenade and Beach

Lifeguard Service

As a result of the success of the service, at its meeting on 11th December 2023, the Charity Committee agreed to enter into a new five-year contract with the RNLI for provision of a beach lifeguard service for the 2024-2028 (inclusive) seasons.

Quality Coast Award/Blue Flag status

The council continued to achieve the Seaside Award for Pelham beach, and the combined Blue Flag and Seaside Award for Marina beach.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

Public Benefit

The objects of the Charity clearly state that the Foreshore is to be held for the benefit of Her Majesty's subjects and the public generally forever. Where the land is beach and beach alone, the objects are achieved by ensuring that the public have free and safe access to the Foreshore. However, maintaining land in proper condition has a cost and the Charity requires an income to meet its expenditure. The Hastings Borough Council Act 1988 varied the original Trusts' to permit certain uses on defined areas of the Trust's land. For example, paid parking was permissible at Rock–a-Nore Car Park and at Pelham Car Park and leisure facilities were permitted in the Stade area.

These variations to the Trust powers enabled the generation of income to meet the costs of maintaining the Foreshore. The uses permitted under the Act, however, are seen as complementary to the Trust objects and the Trustee will exercise its powers under the Act to satisfy the requirement for the benefit of the public.

So far as is possible and subject to the uses permitted under the Act, the aim of the Trustees is that the Foreshore should be accessible by all members of the public who wish to visit it. At the same time, part of the Foreshore is a working beach and so health and safety considerations apply.

The 2011 Scheme included a new object to distribute surpluses as grants for charitable purposes within the Borough of Hastings. There have been seven rounds of small grants the first of which took place in 2011/12. Grants for events on Foreshore Land commenced in 2013/14 and have been repeated annually.

The Trustee has indicated a willingness to undertake further capital works to assets if financially sustainable, which conform to the Trust's objects.

There will be different views on how the public benefit is best achieved and the Charity Committee will

continue to consult with the Coastal Users' Group on proposals for the future of the Foreshore and specifications and standards of maintenance and with the Grant Advisory Panel on the grant criteria and grants processes.

In addition, whilst the Council undertook the role as Trustee from January 2011, it has been operating and managing the Foreshore and its assets without interruption over many years. The operations include:

• keeping the Charity's land safe and clean;

• operating the Charity's car parks;

• managing its tenanted premises;

• arranging and facilitating events on the Foreshore;

• undertaking routine maintenance and repair.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

Financial Review

The annual accounts are attached to this report and, once again, have received an unqualified audit opinion by external auditors. The Trust's main sources of income remain that of car parking fees and charges and rental income from property. The expenditure that the Trust incurs is as a result of providing the car parks e.g. operating costs, and the costs of maintaining and developing the foreshore.

Investments – The Trust retains significant cash balances. At 31 March 2024 these were invested as follows:-

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
CCLA Investment Management	1,853,083	1,765,259
Lloyds Bank (the Trust's Bank Account)	556	546

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

The following table compares the major elements of the budget to the actual income and expenditure for the financial year:-

Statement of Financial Activities	Budget 2023/24 £'000	Actual Outturn 2023/24 £'000
Incoming Resources		
Investment Income	6	87
*Incoming resources from Charitable activities	1,285	1,401
Rental income	258	248
Total incoming resources	**1,549**	**1,736**
Resources Expended		
Loan repayments	33	33
Charitable Activities (excluding Capital charges)	986	1,163
Maintenance projects and cyclical repairs	118	75
Governance costs	155	100
Total resources expended	**1,292**	**1,371**
Total Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	**257**	**365**
Small / Event Grants	43	21
Large Grants	181	169
Projects**	25	29
Surplus/(Deficit)	**7**	**146**

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

The surplus before grants and reserve funded items and capital charges was £365,785.

The overall outturn position was a surplus of £146,893 and capital charges of £73,491.

Future Expenditure Plans 2024/25 and Beyond

In line with the approved Business plan, expenditure on major Projects and Other Expenditure will continue in 2024/25 and will result in an overall surplus for the year, estimating an overall Surplus of £97,000.

Future business plan projects commencing in 2024/25 include repairs and renewals to the beachfront area, surfacing works to car parks, bollard and barrier replacement to Stade Open Space and renewal and improvements to the Pelham Playground and equipment.

The 2024/25 budget identified spend on projects and other expenditure amounting to some £147,500. £122,500 of this spend was on cyclical repairs and maintenance and £25,000 was programmed spend, financed from Reserves. The areas of spend were as follows:-

- £12,000 – Beachfront area repairs and renewals
- £40,000 – Car Park Maintenance and repairs (Lighting, barriers, cleaning gullies and re-surfacing).
- £1,000 – Promenade adult exercise equipment
- £2,000 – Winch Road maintenance and lighting
- £18,000 – Maintenance of Play areas and equipment
- £1,000 – Chalets maintenance
- £5,000 – White Rock promenade fountain
- £7,000 – White Rock Baths external decoration
- £19,000 – White Rock Baths maintenance and redecoration
- £1,000 - Cycle hire hut redecoration and refelting of roof
- £4,000 – Maintenance of Public Conveniences
- £12,500 – Stade open space barriers and bollard replacement
- £25,000 – Project Work Contingency

The current business plan, includes the following for Projects and Other Expenditure for the years 2024/25 and 2025/26 is shown below:-

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION OF WORK	2024-2025 BUDGET	2025-2026 ESTIMATE
		£	£
Beach - Other	Other repairs and renewals beachfront area	12,000	12,000
Car Parks - Pelham	Maintenance	5,000	5,000
Car Parks Rock a Nore	Maintenance	5,000	5,000
Chalets - White Rock & Marina	Maintenance	1,000	1,000
Cycle Hire Hut	Main walls - external redecoration	0	0
Cycle Hire Hut	Roofs - routine re-felting	1,000	0
Cycle route	Contribution to maintenance	0	0
Pelham Place Car Park	Tarmac surfacing - routine minor maintenance	2,000	2,000
Pelham Place Car Park	Clean out car park drainage gullies and channels	0	0
Pelham Place Car Park	Main access routes and disabled parking space hatching road markings - re-application	0	3,000
Pelham Place Car Park	Parking bay road markings - re-application	0	2,000
Pelham Place Car Park	Traffic speed humps - repair / replacement	0	4,000
Pelham Place Car Park	Vehicle height barrier at entrance	3,000	3,000
Rock A Nore	Access Control Systems	0	0
Pelham Place Car Park	Car park lighting columns - maintain LED lamps	500	500
Pelham Place Car Park	Car park information and direction signage	1,000	0
Pelham Place Public Conveniences	Main walls - external redecorations	3,000	0
Pelham Place Public Conveniences	Interior - internal redecorations	1,000	
Pelham Playa (netted MUGA)	Replacement of roof netting system	0	0
Pelham Playground	Repair of play proprietory play equipment	3,000	3,000
Play Areas and Exercise Equipment	Maintenance of equipment	15,000	15,000
Play Hire Huts (Former Life Guards' Huts)	Main walls - external redecoration	0	1,000
Play Hire Huts (Former Life Guards' Huts)	Roofs - routine re-felting	0	0
Promenade Adult Exercise Equipment	Replacement / repair of equipment	1,000	1,000
Promenade Finger Posts	Redecoration and repair	0	500
Public Conveniences	Maintenance		
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Hard Surfaced	Clean out car park drainage gullies and channels	1,000	0
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Hard Surfaced	Main access route and disabled parking space hatching road markings - re-application	2,000	0
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Hard Surfaced	Parking bay road markings to east end - re-application	1,000	0
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Hard Surfaced	Repair and replacement of metal bollards	0	0
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Hard Surfaced	Vehicle height barrier at car park entrance	3,000	3,000
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Hard Surfaced	Car park lighting columns - maintain LED lamps	500	500

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION OF WORK	2024-2025 BUDGET	2025-2026 BUDGET
		£	£
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Hard Surfaced	Car park information and direction signage	1,000	0
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Loose Surface	Scarify and fill pot holes in loose surface finish	13,000	13,000
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Loose Surface	Replacement of damaged timber bollards	0	1,000
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Loose Surface	Repair timber kerb baulks to south boundary	2,000	0
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Loose Surface	Replace timber kerb baulks to south boundary	0	5,000
Stade and Stade Kitchen	Maintenance	0	0
Stade Barriers	Annual maintenance	2,000	2,000
Stade Hall	Interior spaces - internal redecoration	0	0
Stade Hall	Main hall & kitchen - renewal of floor coverings	0	0
Stade Open Space	Drainage gulley clearance	500	500
Stade Open Space	Bench redecoration and remove shingle build up	0	3,000
Stade Open Space	Automatic bollard and barrier replacement	10,000	0
Stade Public Conveniences	Interior spaces - internal redecoration	0	0
White Rock Baths	External redecoration/ Building maintenance	7,000	0
White Rock Baths - Lower Basement	Additional pump hire if above adopted.	16,000	16,000
White Rock Baths - Lower Basement	Sewage tank and pump set - maintenance	500	500
White Rock Baths - Main and Small Hall Level	Further protection of interior spaces from water ingress with use of plastic sheeting at high level and internal guttering where new ingress occurs.	2,500	2,500
White Rock Baths - Promenade Level	Main central entrance superstructure and lightwell upper and lower walls - external redecorations (Inc. White Rock Community Hub frontage)	0	0
White Rock Beach Chalets	Timber walls - external redecoration	0	5,000
White Rock Promenade - Timber Kiosk Decking	Timber decking and ramps around kiosk -minor repairs	0	500
White Rock Promenade (FST owned area only)	White Rock Fountain	5,000	5,000
Winch Road	Maintenance & lighting	2,000	2,000
		122,500	**117,500**
White Rock Promenade (FST owned area only)	Rationalisation of timber seating, benches and waste bins.*		
Contingency	Project Work Contingency	25,000	25,000
		25,000	**25,000**
		147,500	**142,500**

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

Cost of Professional Advice

Legal and professional fees (including Protector's fees) - £81,629 (2022/23 £82,942).

Auditors/Accountants - £8,890 (2022/23 £13,616).

Trustee Expenses and Emoluments

There were no Trustee expenses charged to the Trust in 2023/24 (2022/23 nil).

A special responsibility allowance of £6,945 (2022/23 £6,858) was paid to the Chair of the Charity Committee and this is shown as Governance costs in the accounts.

Reserves Policy

The policy is reviewed periodically to take account of changes in the future plans of the Trust and perceived risks. The last review was 24 September 2018 and there have been no significant changes since this date which require a change to the policy. Reserves are maintained for a variety of reasons and the main points of the Policy are reproduced below.

a) £100,000 is to be retained for an unforeseen emergency or other unexpected need. This amount is arrived at after considering risks and how much might be needed for such contingencies; this involves judgment of events that may occur and their likelihood.

b) Expenditure budget - a small contingency fund to meet unforeseen operational costs. The expenditure budget is some £1.2m. It is suggested that a 10% contingency (say £100,000) be retained for unexpected and unforeseen operational expenditure.

c) Uncertainty over future income. Most well run organisations retain reserves equivalent to a number of weeks or months of equivalent income to allow time to develop new sources of income or to cut-back on related expenditure. Potential significant loss of income could result from a downturn in economic activity or an increase in fuel costs resulting in fewer tourists, a major disaster in the area, bad weather, pollution incident, or loss of reputation e.g. bathing water deterioration, etc. It is recommended that the equivalent of 6 months income be retained to cater for this risk which would amount to around £700,000.

d) Planned spending commitments which cannot be met from future income would imply a need for a specific sum to be set aside, often this amount will be included within designations in the accounts. Given the predicted surplus for each year there is scope to include some of the recurring planned expenditure within the annual budget. There are higher cost initiatives e.g. resurfacing of car parks, roadways etc., that will necessitate identification and retention of significant sums within the accounts.

e) Cash Flow – organisations require a working balance to cover 'troughs' in the cash budget. Based on the financial year the cash flow is expected to be positive throughout the year i.e. income generated should exceed expenditure. Where significant one off expenditure is incurred e.g. resurfacing, use of reserves would be used to cover any shortfalls. As such no sum is set aside for this specific purpose – especially given the sums detailed above (a to d).

f) In summary the Reserves to be retained amount to :-

Ref.	Risk Area/ Designated Funds	Amount (£)
a)	Unforeseen emergency/event	100,000
b)	Unforeseen operational costs/contingency	100,000
c)	Uncertainty on Income streams	700,000
	Total	**900,000**

Plus Planned Spending Commitments e.g. repairs and other initiatives identified within the business plan.

The total funds of the Trust, of which the above form a part, amount to £2,710,742 (2022/23 £2,563,851). The financing of the main programme is dependent upon achieving annual surpluses on the trust's main activities, given the level of Reserves being retained.

Plans for the Future

The Charity Committee looks to review its Business Plan on a regular basis to take account of known variations in resources and new opportunities and commitments. Subject to the Scheme's predetermination that meeting the cost of the administration and the repair and maintenance of its existing assets is the first priority; this will involve consideration of proposals for enhancing income generation and/or reducing operating expenditure as well as providing better facilities and attractions for the public benefit.

The current business plan is continually reviewed and updated on an ongoing basis.

Accountants, Auditors and Bankers

The Trust has been grateful for the excellent work of Manningtons (Auditors) in carrying out the audit of the Trust's accounts.

The Trust's monies are managed by the Council. The bankers are Lloyds Bank, which is the same as the Council with separate bank accounts. The Council's comprehensive Treasury Management and Investment Policy requirements equally apply when dealing with Trust monies.

Concluding Remarks

The Trust continues to concentrate efforts on ensuring a secure and viable future for the Trust, especially in terms of maintaining and improving its assets, managing its available resources for the long term benefit of the community, and also in the distribution of grants to the benefit of the Community - as resources permit.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

Statement of Responsibilities

The trustee is responsible for preparing the trustee's report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities requires the trustee to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustee is 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustee is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustee is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Disclosure of information to auditor

The trustee has taken steps that it ought to have taken as a member in order to make itself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information. The trustee confirms that there is no relevant information that is known of and of which they know the auditor is unaware.

The annual report is signed on behalf of the trustee by:

.....

Councillor Tony Collins

Chair of Charity Committee

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Protector's Report 2023/24

This is my fourth full Annual Report as Protector of The Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust ("Foreshore Trust") since my appointment on 20th March 2020.

The rules of the Foreshore Trust call for the appointment of a Protector to safeguard the proper management of this charitable trust and, in particular, the resolution of any conflicts of interest that may arise from time to time between Hastings Borough Council ("HBC") acting as Trustee of the charity and HBC acting in its capacity as local authority. To this end, the rules provide that the general duty of the Protector is "to ensure the integrity of the administration of the charity", in other words to act as a watchdog over the activities of HBC's Charity Committee in managing the affairs of the Foreshore Trust.

(1) I have attended all meetings of the Charity Committee.

(2) Under the constitution of the Foreshore Trust the Trustee must consult two advisory bodies: (1) a nominated consultative and advisory group (currently the Coastal Users' Group - "CUG") in relation to major foreshore management issues, and (2) the Grants Advisory Panel ("GAP") which deals with the detailed process of recommending grants to be made by the Trustee under powers given in the Scheme. The Protector is entitled to attend the meetings of these groups and I have attended all meetings of the CUG and also those of the Charity Planning Committee which discusses the recommendations of the GAP;

(3) Following the extension of the Trust's charitable activities, having ceased to make contributions under the Community Partnership Fund as from April 2021, The Foreshore Trust has extended its establishment of a "Large Grant Programme" with charitable objectives similar in many respects to those of the Community Partnership Fund. The new programme has resulted in the award of grants totaling £189.9k in 2023/24, made up of £21k in small grants and £168.9k in large grants. Further grants will be committed in the two subsequent years. Members of the Charity Committee and senior HBC officers have been at pains to ensure that:

(a) The activities of the Large Grant Programme are genuinely charitable in nature;

(b) Grant recommendations to the members of the Charity Committee will be made by the GAP, not by the HBC officers previously responsible for making Community Partnership Fund recommendations, though they are available in an advisory capacity to the GAP;

(c) Procedures have been introduced to ensure that all eligible applications are placed before the GAP, and any applications considered ineligible by HBC staff members are reported to and considered by the GAP;

(d) Potential conflicts of interest issues will continue to be properly addressed and resolved - these might relate to Charity Committee or GAP members with personal involvement with particular charities.

(d) Following these developments, the Charity Commission was requested for a minor amendment to the 2011 Scheme to allow for the appointment of two extra members of the GAP to cope with the extra work load, and this was granted and implemented.

(4) During the period to which this report relates, I have been satisfied as Protector that the Trustee (HBC), acting through its Charity Committee, has satisfactorily ensured the integrity of the administration of the affairs of the Foreshore Trust, as required by the current Scheme of constitution.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

James W Cook FCA

Protector

……. 2025

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement, 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 United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Basis for qualified opinion on financial statements

We were unable to obtain sufficient audit evidence pertaining to the source data of transactions of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust at 31 March 2024. All bookkeeping is maintained in-house by Hastings Borough Council (HBC) and apportionment of various costs and income are based on actual ownership of land by the Charity. The income and expenditure is managed by HBC and is transacted via their bank accounts.

We are able to verify all rents due, grants received, interest received and review the other income streams for expectation and reasonableness. Similarly we are able to verify related costs, however all evidence provided is in the name of HBC and not of the charity.

The auditors of HBC have issued a disclaimer of opinion for the accounts for the year ending 31st March 2024 and highlighted significant control deficiencies in HBC's financial accounting and record keeping. Therefore no comfort can be obtained from their published accounts for the same period.

Qualified opinion on the financial statements

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its 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 Charities Act 2011.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

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 charity 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 trustee 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 charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the original financial statements were authorised for issue.

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

Other information

The trustee is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. 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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustee's Report.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities Act 2011 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 financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustee remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustee

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustee Responsibilities [set out on page], the trustee is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustee 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 trustee is responsible for assessing the charity'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 trustee either intend to liquidate the charity 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.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable 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 extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

The detection of fraud and irregularities is a primary consideration of the audit planning and is carried through to the audit completion stage. A risk assessment and preliminary analytical review is undertaken at the planning stage and areas of concern are then built into the audit strategy and testing to ensure sufficient procedures and evidence is obtained to give comfort that material irregularities and potential instances of fraud are detected where possible.

The audit team is briefed regarding any areas or concern, the potential audit risks and consequential impact. The audit team remained vigilant throughout their work and made enquiries of key management personnel throughout.

Key management were consulted on any known or suspected breaches in laws and regulations along with misappropriation of funds at both the planning and completion stages of the audit. Due consideration was given to the possible use of management override and this was built into our audit strategy.

The purpose of the preliminary analytical review of the financial statements is to highlight any possible areas of concern to investigate whether the variance is expected or unexpected, based on the information obtained as part of the planning process and the current climate the charity is operating under. Relevant audit tests had then been planned to obtain supporting documentation to ensure that they are within the charitable objectives and no misappropriation of funds by way of fraud, or misstatements. Latest accounts disclosure checklists available are also completed to ensure the accounts comply with the latest reporting framework that is applicable to the charity.

There are aspects of the audit which are deliberately unpredictable to assist in the detection of irregularities, such as varying how we test items which are more susceptible to fraud, year on year and by incorporating systematic sampling over the populations tested.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council’s website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor’s report.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity trustee, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the trustee those matters we are required to state to trustee in an auditors' 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 charity and its trustee as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

.....
Rowena Walsh FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Manningtons, Statutory Auditor

39 High Street
Battle, East Sussex
TN33 0EE

Date:.....

Manningtons is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Charitable activities	2	1,648,961	1,648,961
Investment income	3	87,834	87,834
Total Income		1,736,795	1,736,795
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	4	(1,490,108)	(1,490,108)
Governance costs	5	(99,795)	(99,795)
Total Expenditure		(1,589,903)	(1,589,903)
Net movement in funds		146,892	146,892
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		2,563,850	2,563,850
Total funds carried forward	15	2,710,742	2,710,742

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Charitable activities	2	1,551,556	1,551,556
Investment income	3	36,358	36,358
Total Income		1,587,914	1,587,914
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	4	(1,422,531)	(1,422,531)
Governance costs	5	(105,105)	(105,105)
Total Expenditure		(1,527,636)	(1,527,636)
Net movement in funds		60,278	60,278
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		2,503,573	2,503,573
Total funds carried forward	15	2,563,851	2,563,851

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The notes on pages 28 to 40 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

(Registration number: 1105649)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	938,969	1,012,460
Current assets			
Debtors	11	9,860	-
Cash at bank and in hand	12	1,853,639	1,765,804
		1,863,499	1,765,804
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	(59,446)	(150,381)
Net current assets		1,804,053	1,615,423
Total assets less current liabilities		2,743,022	2,627,883
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	14	(32,280)	(64,032)
Net assets		2,710,742	2,563,851
Funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		2,710,742	2,563,851
Total funds	15	2,710,742	2,563,851

The financial statements on pages 25 to 40 were approved by the trustee, and authorised for issue on ..... and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Councillor Tony Collins
Chairman

The notes on pages 28 to 40 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash income		146,892	60,278
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Depreciation		73,491	73,491
Investment income	3	(87,834)	(36,358)
		132,549	97,411
Working capital adjustments			
Increase in debtors	11	(9,860)	-
Decrease in creditors	13	(91,456)	(66,723)
Net cash flows from operating activities		31,233	30,688
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest receivable and similar income	3	87,834	36,358
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayment of loans and borrowings	13	(31,232)	(30,718)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		87,835	36,328
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		1,765,804	1,729,476
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		1,853,639	1,765,804

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The notes on pages 28 to 40 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance

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) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable 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 notes.

Going concern

The trustee considers that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Judgements

As outlined in Note 17, Hastings Borough Council acts as the sole trustee for the Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust. The scheme is so constituted as to prevent the Council from obtaining any benefit from the Trust's activities and no group accounts are produced. Further details of the transactions with the Council are given in Note 17.

The Statement of Accounts contains estimated figures that are based on assumptions made by the Trust about the future or that are otherwise uncertain. Estimates are made taking into account historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors. However, because balances cannot be determined with certainty, actual results could be materially different from the assumptions and estimates.

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives taking into account residual values, where appropriate. The actual lives of the assets and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. In re-assessing asset lives, factors such as the effect of the elements, maintenance programmes and past experience are taken into account. The carrying amount is £938,969 (2023 -£1,012,460).

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Investment income

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Charitable activities

Income from charitable activities includes income recognised as earned (as the related goods or services are provided) under contract.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Grant expenditure

Grants payable are payments made to third parties in the furtherance of the charitable objectives. Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SoFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specific service or output.

Grants payable without performance conditions are only recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made and there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the charity.

Grant provisions

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Governance costs

Governance costs include costs of the preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and the cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £500.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

The land comprising the foreshore of Hastings and St Leonards was sold to the Trust by the Crown in September 1893 for £400 and subsequent purchases between 1925 and 1934 for a further £630. No valuation of this land has ever been carried out and it is recorded at cost. Land valued at £95,000 was acquired in 2010 as part of a land swap with Hastings Borough Council. Additional expenditure of £119,490 in 2013 represents the cost of creating additional car parking spaces within the Pelham Place car park. This is being depreciated over 15 years, being the estimated time before re-surfacing becomes necessary. The trustee is of the opinion that the open market value is materially in excess of the carrying value of the land.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Land	not depreciated
Pelham Place car park additional spaces	over 15 years straight line
White Rock Baths	over 50 years straight line
Winch Road Upgrade	over 15 years straight line
Plant and equipment	over 5 and 15 years straight line

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Research and development

Research and development expenditure is written off as incurred.

Debtors

Are amounts due from Hastings Borough Council for settlement of expenditure incurred by the Trust that is to be repaid and is recognised initially at the transaction price. A provision for the impairment of it will be established when there is objective evidence that the Trust will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the charity has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustee's discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside for specific purposes at the discretion of the trustees.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Staff and pension schemes

The charity has no employees but is charged the relevant portion of those undertaking work in pursuance of the charity's objectives. These are employed by Hastings Borough Council and have the choice of being in the relevant defined benefit local government pension scheme.

2 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Car parking	1,401,265	1,401,265	1,293,454
Foreshore management	246,918	246,918	257,540
Public conveniences	778	778	562
	1,648,961	1,648,961	1,551,556

3 Investment income

	Unrestricted General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	87,834	87,834	36,358
	87,834	87,834	36,358

4 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Car Parking	506,667	506,667	426,913
Foreshore management	599,870	599,870	554,223
Street cleansing	14,474	14,474	12,771
Public convieiences	179,205	179,205	147,624
White Rock Baths	-	-	9,000
Small end events grants	189,892	189,892	272,000
	1,490,108	1,490,108	1,422,531

5 Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Wages and salaries	6,945	6,945	6,858
Audit of the financial statements	6,390	6,390	9,116
Accountancy services	2,500	2,500	4,500
Legal fees	23,399	23,399	26,396
HBC management charges	58,230	58,230	58,230
Other governance costs	2,331	2,331	5
	99,795	99,795	105,105

6 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming resources for the year include:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Audit fees	(6,390)	(9,116)
Depreciation of fixed assets	(73,491)	(73,491)

7 Trustee remuneration and expenses

Payments to the Trustee related entirely to recharges of costs incurred by HBC on behalf of the charity. These included a payment by HBC to the Chair of the Charity Committee of HBC by way of a responsibility allowance from the Council of £6,945 (2023 - £6,858), included in Governance costs.

8 Staff costs

The Trust does not directly employ any staff. As such no employee received emoluments of more that £60,000 during the year

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £65,369 (2023 - £55,974).

9 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from Corporation Tax.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Plant and equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2023	1,144,091	573,843	1,717,934
At 31 March 2024	1,144,091	573,843	1,717,934
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2023	305,641	399,833	705,474
Charge for the year	40,514	32,977	73,491
At 31 March 2024	346,155	432,810	778,965
Net book value			
At 31 March 2024	797,936	141,033	938,969
At 31 March 2023	838,450	174,010	1,012,460

11 Debtors

	2024 £
Other amounts owed by Hastings Borough Council	9,860

12 Cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash at bank	1,853,639	1,765,804

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Other creditors	-	93,951
Loans from Hastings Borough Council	31,751	31,231
Accruals	27,695	25,200
	59,446	150,382

14 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Loans from Hastings Borough Council	32,280	64,032

The amount is the long term portion of the £300,000 annuity loan. The loan is at 1.66%, and has biannual payments.

For the £300,000 annuity loan, to limit the potential impact on the Trust, the Council shared the risk on a 50:50 basis. For clarity, the annual borrowing costs for the year ending 31 March 2024 were £1,452 (2023: £1,964), if the venture failed the amount payable per annum by the Trust would be reduced by 50%. If a new tenant was found at that time but the rental stream achieved was lower, then the shortfall would be shared.

15 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
General					
Unappropriated reserve	-	1,736,795	(1,589,903)	(146,892)	-
Designated					
Contingency reserve	900,000	-	-	-	900,000
Main programme reserve	651,391	-	-	220,383	871,774
Fixed asset fund	1,012,460	-	-	(73,491)	938,969
	2,563,851	-	-	146,892	2,710,743
Total funds	2,563,851	1,736,795	(1,589,903)	-	2,710,743

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
General					
Unappropriated reserve	-	1,587,914	(1,527,636)	(60,278)	-
Designated					
Contingency reserve	900,000	-	-	-	900,000
Main programme reserve	517,622	-	-	133,769	651,391
Fixed asset fund	1,085,951	-	-	(73,491)	1,012,460
	2,503,573	-	-	60,278	2,563,851
Total funds	2,503,573	1,587,914	(1,527,636)	-	2,563,851

15 Funds (continued)

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

The Main programme reserve is held to fund the Trust's business plan initiatives and significant items of repair and maintenance that cannot be financed in a single year.

The Fixed asset fund is created to recognise that an equivalent amount of reserves has already been used, and is not available for further use.

The Unappropriated reserve represents all monies for which a specific purpose remains to be determined.

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds Designated £	Total funds at 31 March 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	938,969	938,969
Current assets	1,863,499	1,863,499
Current liabilities	(59,446)	(59,446)
Creditors over 1 year	(32,280)	(32,280)
Total net assets	2,710,742	2,710,742

	Unrestricted funds Designated £	Total funds at 31 March 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,012,460	1,012,460
Current assets	1,765,804	1,765,804
Current liabilities	(150,381)	(150,381)
Creditors over 1 year	(64,032)	(64,032)
Total net assets	2,563,851	2,563,851

17 Related party transactions

During the year the charity made the following related party transactions:

Hastings Borough Council
(Trustee)

The Foreshore Trust took a loan in 2016 from Hastings Borough Council to allow it to fund the conversion of White Rock Baths as a BMX centre and café.

The property belongs to the Foreshore Trust and the loan granted by Hastings Borough Council for £300,000 was for a ten year period. The Building has been leased to The Source for a period of ten years and the rental income generated will contribute to the repayment of the loan principal and interest.

The loan is repayable in biannual payments. The £300,000 annuity loan being at 1.66%, and the first payment being made on the 21st September 2016.

For the former, to limit the potential impact on the Trust, the Council would share the risk on a 50:50 basis. For clarity, the annual borrowing costs for the year during 31st March 2024 were £1,452 (£1,964), if the venture failed the amount payable per annum by the Trust would be reduced by 50%. If a new tenant was found at that time but the rental stream achieved was lower, then the shortfall would be shared. At the balance sheet date the amount due to Hastings Borough Council was £54,170 (2023 - £268,108).

HASTINGS AND ST LEONARDS FORESHORE CHARITABLE TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1105649

Accounts

Charity registration number: 1105649

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

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Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Reference and Administrative Details

Chairman	Councillor Tony Collins
Trustee	Hastings Borough Council
Other Officers	Councillor Trevor Webb, Committee Chair *(Appointed 20th May 2021 - Retired 24th May 2022)* Councillor Ali Roark, Committee Chair *(Appointed 25th May 2022 - Retired 20th October 2022)* Councillor John Cannan, Committee Chair *(Appointed 21st October 2022 - Retired 18th January 2024)* Councillor Ali Roark, Committee Chair *(Appointed 19th January 2024 - Retired 22nd May 2024)* Councillor Judy Rogers, Committee Member *(Appointed 16 May 2018 - Retired 24th January 2024)* Councillor Andy Batsford, Committee Member *(Appointed 10 July 2017 - Retired 24th January 2024)* Councillor Julia Hilton, Committee Member *(Appointed 24th January 2024)* Councillor Glenn Haffenden, Committee Member *(Appointed 24th January 2024)*
Bankers	Lloyds Bank 17 Wellington Place Hastings TN31 1NX
Auditor	Manningtons Statutory Auditor 39 High Street Battle, East Sussex TN33 0EE
Protector	James W Cook FCA (Appointed 20th March 2020) The Cottage Rushlake Green Heathfield East Sussex TN21 9QH
Charity Registration Number	1105649

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

The Trustee presents the annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Structure Governance and Management

Overview

The governing documents of the Charity are a conveyance from the Crown to Hastings Corporation dated 8 September 1893 and Charity Commission Scheme ref. no, 981/1011 made on 13 January 2011 (the 2011 Scheme).

The 1893 Conveyance provides that the length of foreshore between Ecclesbourne Glen and Grosvenor Gardens shall be held for the common use, benefit and enjoyment of Her Majesty's subjects and the public generally forever. Later conveyances in 1925, 1933 and 1934 conveyed the remainder of the foreshore to the Hastings Corporation on the same Trusts.

The Hastings Borough Council Act 1988 varies the Trust to permit certain uses on delineated areas of land and for the Council to charge for that use, whether provided by the Council itself or by another on the Council's behalf.

The 2011 Scheme extended the objects of the Charity to include such charitable purposes within the Borough of Hastings as the Trustee thinks fit.

The 2011 Scheme had the effect of revoking the Charity Commission Scheme dated 22 March 2006 which appointed independent Trustees and Council nominated Trustees and appointed Hastings Borough Council as the Trustee for all purposes. This report is prepared by the Trustee as required under the 2011 Scheme.

Significant changes

Councillor Ali Roark was appointed to the position of Chair on 25th May 2022 and retired on 20th October 2022. Councillor John Cannan was appointed to the position of Chair on 21st October 2022

Governance

i) The Trustee

Hastings Borough Council is a principal local authority established under the Local Government Act 1972 and, as such, has corporate status.

As a local authority, the Trustee acts through decisions of elected members and delegations to committees, sub-committees and officers. The Local Government Act 2000 introduced executive decision making and the legislation provided for a split between decisions which are reserved to the Council, to the Executive or according to local choice. Where the function in question is not reserved to Council or a local choice function, the default provision in the legislation is that the function and decision-making relating to it are the preserve of the executive.

This represents the position regarding the Council's function or power to administer charities, that is to say that the administration of charities is an executive function and so only the Cabinet, a committee of Cabinet or officers acting under delegations from Cabinet are legally competent to make decisions relating to the Charity. This means that for the Foreshore Trust, the Council as Trustee, acts through the Charity Committee of Cabinet.

ii) The Protector

When considering the request of the former independent Trustees to appoint the Council as Trustee, the Commission was concerned regarding the potential conflict of interest between the Council's position as charitable Trustee and as local authority and how to address this. Part of the solution was the requirement in the 2011 Scheme for the appointment of a Protector, who is required to be a qualified accountant.

Christopher May, MA, FCA, who was appointed as first Protector completed his third term as Protector on March 19th 2020 and James Cook, FCA was appointed as the New Protector effective from March 20th 2020. The role of the Protector is essentially to act as whistle blower and watchdog against the Council acting in breach of trust and to guard against situations where a conflict of interest is not being managed properly. As a chartered accountant he is equipped to scrutinise the Council's charity accounts. The Protector is required to report any matters of serious concern to the Charity Commission and must prepare an annual report on his activities for inclusion in the Charity's Annual Report.

Consultation

The 2011 Scheme makes provision for consultation in two areas of the Charity's operation. Namely:-

(i) Coastal Users' Group: The Trustee is required to consult with and have regard to the recommendations of the Coastal Users' Group (CUG) in relation to certain matters, namely:-

• the standards or specifications for the maintenance of the charity's land.
• the Charity's policy relating to events and activities to be held on the Charity's land and any event/activity outside that policy.
• the Charity's policy relating to the exercise of any power under the Hastings Borough Council Act 1988 or otherwise to manage, let sell or otherwise dispose of the Charity's property, and
• the exercise of the powers under the previous bullet otherwise than in accordance with the agreed policy.

The CUG was an existing consultative group set up by the Council as local authority to consult with interested parties in relation to matters affecting the front line of the Council's area. It became the Coastal Advisory Group as required by the 2011 Scheme after adopting a formal constitution and rules for membership in early 2011. The minutes of its meetings, in so far as they relate to Foreshore Trust matters, are included in the reports submitted to each Charity Committee meeting. The CUG meets before each Charity Committee meeting (four times a year) to consider and comment on reports being submitted to the Charity Committee. The CUG is consulted each time the Foreshore Trust Business Plan is revised.

(ii) Grant Advisory Panel

The object to distribute surpluses, after meeting the costs of administering the Charity and managing its assets, including the repair and insurance of its land and buildings, through grants for charitable purposes in the Borough, are subject to consultation with the Grant Advisory Panel. The 2011 Scheme provides that consultation is to take place concerning the grant criteria, grant processes and grant determinations. The Grants Advisory Panel successfully concluded the process of the 2022/2023 year's round of grant making, resulting in the award of grants totalling £270.2k(£ 89,2k in Small grants & £181k in large grants).

The following grants were awarded

Small Grants

Counselling Plus	£6,000
FSN	£5,933
Hastings & Rother Interfaith Forum	£1,200
A Town Explores a Book (ATEAB)	£4,260
Hastings Furniture Service (HFS)	£6,000
7th Hastings Scouts	£3,850
Hastings & St Leonards Voluntary Lifeguards	£2,422
Hastings Storytelling Festival	£5,180
Barefoot Opera	£6,000
Energise Sussex Coast	£3,800
Soundcastle	£1,000
Education training consortium Sussex (ETC)	£6,000
Hastings Community Trust	£6,000
Hastings & Rother YMCA	£5,883
Karmabank	£5,800
Hastings Advice and Representation Centre (HARC)	£6,000
Seaview	£6,000
XTRAX	£1,600
Emmaus	£4,850
Umbrella Sussex	£2,868

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

Large Grants

Change Grow Live (CGL)	£22,299
Citizens Advice 1066	£42,108
Hastings Advice & Representation Centre	£42,108
Hastings Voluntary Action (HVA)	£35,755
The Links Project (HVA)	£11,110
The Seaview Project	£28,000

Delegation to Officers

At its first meeting on 25 January 2011, the Charity Committee agreed a Scheme of Delegation to Officers. From the 1 April 2012 the Scheme of Delegations has required amending, replacing the Chief Executive with an appropriate Director and his/her nominee as a result of a senior management restructure. The new Scheme of Delegations follows the pattern of the Council's Scheme of Delegations to Officers, in that the appropriate Director or their duly authorised nominee is authorised within the plan and budget agreed by the Charity Committee to undertake the day to day operation and management of the Charity. The authority is general and subject to certain exceptions including the disposal of land, use of the Charity's land for events outside of the agreed policy, grants for charitable purposes and specification for and the award of contracts affecting the Charity, which are all subject to consultation and then the decision of the Charity Committee. The Scheme of Delegation emphasises that the Directors or their nominees acting under the delegations must be mindful that they are acting on behalf of the Charity and not the Council and ensure that at all times they act in the best interests of the Charity.

The officers authorised for most purposes affecting the Charity's Day to day operation and management are:-

- Victoria Conheady, Assistant Director Regeneration and Culture.
- Kit Wheeler, Chief Finance Officer.
- Amy Terry, Property and Commercial Assets Manager
- Mary Kilner is the Monitoring Officer and the Chief Legal Officer, and is also the Authorised Signatory on behalf of the Charity

In case of actual or potential conflict of interest for officers, independent advisors are instructed on behalf of the Charity e.g. surveyors.

Training and Induction for the Trustee

Training is provided for members and officers covering training on the history of the Trust, the constitutional documentation of the Trust and how to put those into effect.

Training has been offered to all members of the Council to raise awareness and to keep them advised.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

Risk Management

The charity maintains a risk register and formally reviews this on an annual basis when determining the reserves policy. Initially this identified the key financial risks facing the Trust but continues to be developed to include the identification of all significant risks (it also includes the identification of relevant controls to mitigate and responsibilities).

Objectives

The 2011 Scheme states the objects of the Charity to be:-

(i) to hold and maintain the charity's land for the objects set out in the trusts of the Charity, namely for the common use, benefit and enjoyment of all Her Majesty's subjects and of the public for the time being forever; and

(ii) subject to (i) above, such charitable purposes within the area of the Borough of Hastings as the Trustee thinks fit.

The Scheme expressly provides that income and capital are first to be applied in meeting the proper costs of administering the Charity and of managing its assets including the repair and insurance of its land and buildings. After payment of these costs, the Trustee must apply the remaining income in furthering the objects of the Charity.

Achievements and Performance

This was the tenth full financial year for the Council as Trustee of the Foreshore Trust. The Charity met four times during the year and the main business was:

• The delivery of the Trust's new rolling five-year Business Plan.

• Management of small and events grants (up to £5,000) to local charitable organisations; Round 4 was launched in Oct 2020 for April 2021 start. Round 5 was launched in Oct 2021 for April 2022 start. The Large Grant programme was launched in 2020 for April 2021 until March 2024.

• Agreement of the budget for 2023/24 and financial report.

Car Parks

The Foreshore Trust derives its income mainly from car parking and property leases/licences, the former income stream being quite variable.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

Grounds Maintenance

There are no significant changes to the foreshore grounds maintenance contract. For the Trust, the annual cost of seafront grounds maintenance has reduced. The ground maintenance contract has been operated by Idverde since 2016. The refreshed business plan will include revised management arrangements for seafront landscaping.

The Stade

Stade Hall is now operated by the East Sussex College Group – their plans for the building includes commercial lettings and activities, adult education for community partners project and advanced learners project, offering 'level 3' bespoke fish mongering, butchery and patisserie courses.

The college had also agreed to a significant community element working with Hastings Voluntary Action to promote volunteering opportunities for long term unemployed, working with Billingsgate seafood training school and the Foreshore Trust to develop a programme with school involvement to promote sea food cooking; linking with community partners; and offering employability skills, and apprenticeship qualifications, at Stade Hall.

Stade open space

This area continues to be used both as a public open space and an events venue.

Promenade and Beach

Lifeguard Service

As a result of the success of the pilot, at the charity committee meeting on 11th December 2017 the committee agreed unanimously to enter into a three-year contract with the RNLI to provide the Hastings lifeguard service.

A number of 'tweaks' were made to the service following the pilot, including earlier starts at all three sites - Pelham, Pier, and Marina. 2020 was the third full year of the three-year contract, and on 29th March 2021 the charity committee agreed to enter into a further three-year contract with the RNLI for the RNLI to provide lifeguarding services at Hastings, for the 2021 -2023 (inclusive) seasons.

Quality Coast Award/Blue Flag status

The council continued to achieve the Seaside Award for Pelham beach, and the combined Blue Flag and Seaside Award for Marina beach.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

Public Benefit

The objects of the Charity clearly state that the Foreshore is to be held for the benefit of Her Majesty's subjects and the public generally forever. Where the land is beach and beach alone, the objects are achieved by ensuring that the public have free and safe access to the Foreshore. However, maintaining land in proper condition has a cost and the Charity requires an income to meet its expenditure. The Hastings Borough Council Act 1988 varied the original Trusts' to permit certain uses on defined areas of the Trust's land. For example, paid parking was permissible at Rock–a-Nore Car Park and at Pelham Car Park and leisure facilities were permitted in the Stade area.

These variations to the Trust powers enabled the generation of income to meet the costs of maintaining the Foreshore. The uses permitted under the Act, however, are seen as complementary to the Trust objects and the Trustee will exercise its powers under the Act to satisfy the requirement for the benefit of the public.

So far as is possible and subject to the uses permitted under the Act, the aim of the Trustees is that the Foreshore should be accessible by all members of the public who wish to visit it. At the same time, part of the Foreshore is a working beach and so health and safety considerations apply.

The 2011 Scheme included a new object to distribute surpluses as grants for charitable purposes within the Borough of Hastings. There have been seven rounds of small grants the first of which took place in 2011/12. Grants for events on Foreshore Land commenced in 2013/14 and have been repeated annually.

The Trustee has indicated a willingness to undertake further capital works to assets if financially sustainable, which conform to the Trust's objects.

There will be different views on how the public benefit is best achieved and the Charity Committee will continue to consult with the Coastal Users' Group on proposals for the future of the Foreshore and specifications and standards of maintenance and with the Grant Advisory Panel on the grant criteria and grants processes.

In addition, whilst the Council undertook the role as Trustee from January 2011, it has been operating and managing the Foreshore and its assets without interruption over many years. The operations include:

• keeping the Charity's land safe and clean;

• operating the Charity's car parks;

• managing its tenanted premises;

• arranging and facilitating events on the Foreshore;

• undertaking routine maintenance and repair.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

Financial Review

The annual accounts are attached to this report and, once again, have received an unqualified audit opinion by external auditors. The Trust's main sources of income remain that of car parking fees and charges and rental income from property. The expenditure that the Trust incurs is as a result of providing the car parks e.g. operating costs, and the costs of maintaining and developing the foreshore

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
CCLA Investment Management	1,765,259	1,728,902
Lloyds Bank (the Trust's Bank Account)	546	574

The following table compares the major elements of the budget to the actual income and expenditure for the financial year:-

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

Statement of Financial Activities

	Budget 2022-23	Actual Outturn 2022-23
	£'000	£'000
Incoming Resources		
Investment Income	6	36
Incoming resources from Charitable activities	1,350	1,294
Rental income	222	258
Total incoming resources	1,578	1,588
Resources Expended		
Loan repayments	33	33
Charitable Activities* (excluding Capital charges)	1,045	1,006
Maintenance projects and cyclical repairs	128	60
Governance costs	154	105
Total resources expended	1,360	1,204
Total Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	218	383
Small / Event Grants	90	90
Large Grants	182	182
Projects**	45	51
Surplus/(Deficit)	(99)	60

The surplus before grants and reserve funded items and capital charges was £383,000.

The overall outturn position was a surplus of £60,278 and capital charges of £73,491.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

Future Expenditure Plans 2023/24 and Beyond

In line with the approved Business plan, expenditure on major Projects and Other Expenditure will continue in 2023/24 and will result in an overall surplus for the year, estimating an overall Surplus of £7,000.

Future business plan projects commencing in 2022/23 include surfacing works to footpaths and playground areas, White Rock Promenade rationalization of timber seating, benches & waste bins. Kiosk decking and landscaping adjacent to boating lake.

The 2022/23 budget identified spend on projects and other expenditure amounting to some £172,500. £127,500 of this spend is on cyclical repairs and maintenance and £25,000 is programmed spend, financed from Reserves. The areas of spend are as follows:-

- £24,000 – Car Park Maintenance and repairs (Lighting, barriers, cleaning gullies and re-surfacing).
- £20,000 – White Rock Promenade timber seating, benches and waste bins.
- £15,000 – Maintenance of Play areas and equipment.
- £12,000 – Contingency Budget for emergency Repairs
- £10,000 – White Rock Baths external decoration
- £ 6,000 – Maintenance of Public Conveniences
- £ 25,000 – Project Work Contingency

The current business plan, includes the following for Projects and Other Expenditure for the years 2022/23 to 2024/25 is shown over the page:-

		2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Total
PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION OF WORK	Budget	ESTIMATE	ESTIMATE	ESTIMATE 2022-25
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Beach - Other	Other repairs and renewals beachfront area	12	0	12	24
Car Parks Pelham	Maintenance	6	5	0	11
Car Parks Rock n Nore	Maintenance	6	7	5	18
Chalets - White Rock & Marine	Maintenance	2	0	1	3
Cycle Hire Hut	Main walls - external redecoration	0	1	0	1
Cycle Hire Hut	Roofs - routine re-felting	0	1	1	2
Pelham Place Car Park	Tarmac surfacing - routine minor maintenance	0	0	2	2
Pelham Place Car Park	Clean out car park drainage gullies and channels	1	1	0	2
Pelham Place Car Park	Parking bay road markings - re-application	0	0	0	0
Pelham Place Car Park	Traffic speed humps - repair / replacement	0	5	4	9
Pelham Place Car Park	Vehicle height barrier at entrance	3	3	3	9
Rock A Nore	Access Control Systems	0	5	0	5
Pelham Place Car Park	Car park lighting columns - maintain LED lamps	1	1	1	2
Pelham Place Car Park	Car park information and direction signage	0	0	1	1
Pelham Place Public Conveniences	Main walls - external redecorations	0	0	3	3
Pelham Place Public Conveniences	Interior - internal redecorations	0	0	1	1
Pelham Playa (netted MUGA)	Replacement of roof netting system	0	10	0	10

Pelham Playground	Repair of play proprietory play equipment	2	3	3	8
Play Areas and Exercise Equipment	Maintenance of equipment	15	0	0	15
Play Hire Huts (Former Life Guards' Huts)	Roofs – routine re-felting	0	2	0	2
Promenade Adult Exercise Equipment	Replacement / repair of equipment	0	2	0	2
Promenade Finger Posts	Redecoration and repair	1	1	0	1
Public Conveniences	Maintenance	6	0	0	6
Rock a Nore Car Park Hard Surfaced	Clean out car park drainage gullies and channels	1	0	1	2
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Hard Surfaced	Repair and replacement of metal bollards	0	2	0	2
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Hard Surfaced	Vehicle height barrier at car park entrance	3	3	3	9
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Hard Surfaced	Car park lighting columns - maintain LED lamps	1	1	1	2
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Hard Surfaced	Car park information and direction signage	0	0	1	1
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Loose Surface	Scarify and fill pot holes in loose surface finish	5	12	5	22
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Loose Surface	Replacement of damaged timber bollards	0	1	0	1
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Loose Surface	Repair timber kerb baulks to south boundary	0	0	2	2
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Loose Surface	Replace timber kerb baulks to south boundary	5	0	0	5
Slade and Slade Kitchen	Maintenance	3	2	0	5
Slade Barriers	Annual maintenance	2	0	0	2
Slade Open Space	Drainage gulley clearance	1	1	1	2
Slade Open Space	Bench redecoration and remove shingle build up	3	0	0	3
Slade Open Space	Automatic bollard and barrier replacement	0	0	10	10
Slade Public Conveniences	Interior spaces internal redecoration	6	0	0	6
White Rock Baths	External redecoration/ Building maintenance	10	0	0	10
White Rock Baths – Lower Basement	Additional pump hire if above adopted.	8	8	8	24
White Rock Baths – Lower Basement	Sewage tank and pump set – maintenance	1	1	1	2
White Rock Baths – Main and Small Hall Level	Further protection of interior spaces from water ingress with use of plastic sheeting at high level and internal guttering where new ingress occurs.	4	5	0	9
White Rock Baths – Promenade Level	Main central entrance superstructure and lightwell upper and lower walls - external redecorations (Inc. White Rock Community Hub frontage)	15	0	0	15
White Rock Beach Chalets	Timber walls - external redecoration	5	0	0	5
White Rock Promenade – Timber Kiosk Decking	Timber decking and ramps around kiosk -minor repairs	0	1	0	1
White Rock Promenade (FST owned area only)	Timber seating, benches, waste bins, & planters - repairs and maintenance.	1	0	0	1
Winch Road	Maintenance & lighting	2	0	2	4
Total of Cyclical Repairs and Redecorations		128	81	70	278
Projects (main programme)					
White Rock Promenade (FST owned area only)	Refurbishment of timber seating, benches and waste bins.*	20	0	0	20
Contingency	Project Work Contingency	25	0	25	50
Total Projects - Main Programme		45	0	25	70
TOTAL PROGRAMME		173	81	96	348

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

Cost of Professional Advice

Professional advisor fees (including Protector's fees) - £80,942 (2021/22 £69,437). Auditors/Accountants - £ 13,616 (2021/22 £11,250).

Trustee Expenses and Emoluments

There were no Trustee expenses charged to the Trust in 2022/23 (2021/22 nil).

A special responsibility allowance of £6,858 (2021/22 £6,945) was paid to the Chair of the Charity Committee and this is shown as Governance costs in the accounts.

Reserves Policy

The policy is reviewed periodically to take account of changes in the future plans of the Trust and perceived risks. The last review was 24 September 2018 and there have been no significant changes since this date which require a change to the policy. Reserves are maintained for a variety of reasons and the main points of the Policy are reproduced below.

a) £100,000 is to be retained for an unforeseen emergency or other unexpected need. This amount is arrived at after considering risks and how much might be needed for such contingencies; this involves judgment of events that may occur and their likelihood.

b) Expenditure budget - a small contingency fund to meet unforeseen operational costs. The expenditure budget is some £1.2m. It is suggested that a 10% contingency (say £100,000) be retained for unexpected and unforeseen operational expenditure.

c) Uncertainty over future income. Most well run organisations retain reserves equivalent to a number of weeks or months of equivalent income to allow time to develop new sources of income or to cut-back on related expenditure. Potential significant loss of income could result from a downturn in economic activity or an increase in fuel costs resulting in fewer tourists, a major disaster in the area, bad weather, pollution incident, or loss of reputation e.g. bathing water deterioration, etc. It is recommended that the equivalent of 6 months income be retained to cater for this risk which would amount to around £700,000.

d) Planned spending commitments which cannot be met from future income would imply a need for a specific sum to be set aside, often this amount will be included within designations in the accounts. Given the predicted surplus for each year there is scope to include some of the recurring planned expenditure within the annual budget. There are higher cost initiatives e.g. resurfacing of car parks, roadways etc., that will necessitate identification and retention of significant sums within the accounts.

e) Cash Flow – organisations require a working balance to cover 'troughs' in the cash budget. Based on the financial year the cash flow is expected to be positive throughout the year i.e. income generated should exceed expenditure. Where significant one off expenditure is incurred e.g. resurfacing, use of reserves would be used to cover any shortfalls. As such no sum is set aside for this specific purpose – especially given the sums detailed above (a to d).

f) In summary the Reserves to be retained amount to :-

Ref.	Risk Area/ Designated Funds	Amount (£)
a)	Unforeseen emergency/event	100,000
b)	Unforeseen operational costs/contingency	100,000
c)	Uncertainty on Income streams	700,000
	Total	**900,000**

Plus Planned Spending Commitments e.g. repairs and other initiatives identified within the business plan.

The total funds of the Trust, of which the above form a part, amount to £2,563,851 (2021/22 £2,503,573). The financing of the main programme is dependent upon achieving annual surpluses on the trust's main activities, given the level of Reserves being retained.

Plans for the Future

The Charity Committee looks to review its Business Plan on a regular basis to take account of known variations in resources and new opportunities and commitments. Subject to the Scheme's predetermination that meeting the cost of the administration and the repair and maintenance of its existing assets is the first priority; this will involve consideration of proposals for enhancing income generation and/or reducing operating expenditure as well as providing better facilities and attractions for the public benefit.

The current business plan will be reviewed and updated to present at the end of the 2024/25 financial year.

Accountants, Auditors and Bankers

The Trust has been grateful for the excellent work of Manningtons (Auditors) in carrying out the audit of the Trust's accounts.

The Trust's monies are managed by the Council. The bankers are Lloyds Bank, which is the same as the Council with separate bank accounts. The Council's comprehensive Treasury Management and Investment Policy requirements equally apply when dealing with Trust monies.

Concluding Remarks

The Trust continues to concentrate efforts on ensuring a secure and viable future for the Trust, especially in terms of maintaining and improving its assets, managing its available resources for the long term benefit of the community, and also in the distribution of grants to the benefit of the Community - as resources permit.

Statement of Responsibilities

The trustee is responsible for preparing the trustee's report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

The law applicable to charities requires the trustee to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustee is 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustee is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustee is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Disclosure of information to auditor

The trustee has taken steps that it ought to have taken as a member in order to make itself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information. The trustee confirms that there is no relevant information that is known of and of which they know the auditor is unaware.

The annual report is signed on behalf of the trustee by:

.....

Councillor Tony Collins

Chair of Charity Committe

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Protector's Report 2022/23

This is my third full Annual Report as Protector of The Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust ("Foreshore Trust") since my appointment on 20th March 2020.

The rules of the Foreshore Trust call for the appointment of a Protector to safeguard the proper management of this charitable trust and, in particular, the resolution of any conflicts of interest that may arise from time to time between Hastings Borough Council ("HBC") acting as Trustee of the charity and HBC acting in its capacity as local authority. To this end, the rules provide that the general duty of the Protector is "to ensure the integrity of the administration of the charity", in other words to act as a watchdog over the activities of HBC's Charity Committee in managing the affairs of the Foreshore Trust.

(1) I have attended all meetings of the Charity Committee.

(2) Under the constitution of the Foreshore Trust the Trustee must consult two advisory bodies: (1) a nominated consultative and advisory group (currently the Coastal Users' Group - "CUG") in relation to major foreshore management issues, and (2) the Grants Advisory Panel ("GAP") which deals with the detailed process of recommending grants to be made by the Trustee under powers given in the Scheme. The Protector is entitled to attend the meetings of these groups and I have attended all meetings of the CUG and also those of the Charity Planning Committee which discusses the recommendations of the GAP

(3) Following the extension of the Trust's charitable activities, having ceased to make contributions under the Community Partnership Fund as from April 2021, The Foreshore Trust has extended its establishment of a "Large Grant Programme" with charitable objectives similar in many respects to those of the Community Partnership Fund. The new programme has resulted in the award of grants totaling £270.2k in 2022/23, made up of £89.2k in small grants and £181k in large grants. A similar total sum will be committed in the two subsequent years. Members of the Charity Committee and senior HBC officers have been at pains to ensure that:

(a) The activities of the Large Grant Programme are genuinely charitable in nature;

(b) Grant recommendations to the members of the Charity Committee will be made by the GAP, not by the HBC officers previously responsible for making Community Partnership Fund recommendations, though they are available in an advisory capacity to the GAP;

(c) Procedures have been introduced to ensure that all eligible applications are placed before the GAP, and any applications considered ineligible by HBC staff members are reported to and considered by the GAP;

(d) Potential conflicts of interest issues will continue to be properly addressed and resolved - these might relate to Charity Committee or GAP members with personal involvement with particular charities.

(4) During the period to which this report relates, I have been satisfied as Protector that the Trustee (HBC), acting through its Charity Committee, has satisfactorily ensured the integrity of the administration of the affairs of the Foreshore Trust, as required by the current Scheme of constitution.

Following these developments, the Charity Commission was requested for a minor amendment to the 2011 Scheme to allow for the appointment of two extra members of the GAP to cope with the extra work load, and this was granted and implemented

James W Cook FCA

Protector

……. 2025

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2023, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement, 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 United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Basis for qualified opinion on financial statements

We were unable to obtain sufficient audit evidence pertaining to the source data of transactions of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust at 31 March 2023. All bookkeeping is maintained in-house by Hastings Borough Council (HBC) and apportionment of various costs and income are based on actual ownership of land by the Charity. The income and expenditure is managed by HBC and is transacted via their bank accounts.

We are able to verify all rents due, grants received, interest received and review the other income streams for expectation and reasonableness. Similarly we are able to verify related costs, however all evidence provided is in the name of HBC and not of the charity.

HBC has not issued final accounts for the year ending 31st March 2023 and has not had an audit completed. Therefore no comfort can be obtained from their published accounts for the same period.

Qualified opinion on the financial statements

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its 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 Charities Act 2011.

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 charity 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.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustee 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 charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the original financial statements were authorised for issue.

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

Other information

The trustee is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor’s report thereon. 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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustee's Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities Act 2011 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 financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustee remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Responsibilities of trustee

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustee Responsibilities [set out on page], the trustee is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustee 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 trustee is responsible for assessing the charity'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 trustee either intend to liquidate the charity 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.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable 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 extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

The detection of fraud and irregularities is a primary consideration of the audit planning and is carried through to the audit completion stage. A risk assessment and preliminary analytical review is undertaken at the planning stage and areas of concern are then built into the audit strategy and testing to ensure sufficient procedures and evidence is obtained to give comfort that material irregularities and potential instances of fraud are detected where possible.

The audit team is briefed regarding any areas or concern, the potential audit risks and consequential impact. The audit team remained vigilant throughout their work and made enquiries of key management personnel throughout.

Key management were consulted on any known or suspected breaches in laws and regulations along with misappropriation of funds at both the planning and completion stages of the audit. Due consideration was given to the possible use of management override and this was built into our audit strategy.

The purpose of the preliminary analytical review of the financial statements is to highlight any possible areas of concern to investigate whether the variance is expected or unexpected, based on the information obtained as part of the planning process and the current climate the charity is operating under. Relevant audit tests had then been planned to obtain supporting documentation to ensure that they are within the charitable objectives and no misappropriation of funds by way of fraud, or misstatements. Latest accounts disclosure checklists available are also completed to ensure the accounts comply with the latest reporting framework that is applicable to the charity.

There are aspects of the audit which are deliberately unpredictable to assist in the detection of irregularities, such as varying how we test items which are more susceptible to fraud, year on year and by incorporating systematic sampling over the populations tested.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council’s website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor’s report.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity trustee, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the trustee those matters we are required to state to trustee in an auditors' 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 charity and its trustee as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

.....
Manningtons, Statutory Auditor

39 High Street
Battle, East Sussex
TN33 0EE

Date:.....

Manningtons is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Charitable activities	2	1,551,556	1,551,556
Investment income	3	36,358	36,358
Total Income		1,587,914	1,587,914
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	4	(1,422,531)	(1,422,531)
Governance costs	5	(105,105)	(105,105)
Total Expenditure		(1,527,636)	(1,527,636)
Net movement in funds		60,278	60,278
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		2,503,573	2,503,573
Total funds carried forward	14	2,563,851	2,563,851

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Charitable activities	2	1,290,791	1,290,791
Investment income	3	735	735
Total Income		1,291,526	1,291,526
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	4	(1,362,270)	(1,362,270)
Governance costs	5	(118,578)	(118,578)
Total Expenditure		(1,480,848)	(1,480,848)
Net movement in funds		(189,322)	(189,322)
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		2,692,895	2,692,895
Total funds carried forward	14	2,503,573	2,503,573

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The notes on pages 26 to 38 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

(Registration number: 1105649)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	1,012,460	1,085,951
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand	11	1,765,804	1,729,476
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	(150,381)	(216,592)
Net current assets		1,615,423	1,512,884
Total assets less current liabilities		2,627,883	2,598,835
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	13	(64,032)	(95,262)
Net assets		2,563,851	2,503,573
Funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		2,563,851	2,503,573
Total funds	14	2,563,851	2,503,573

The financial statements on pages 23 to 38 were approved by the trustee, and authorised for issue on ..... and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Councillor Tony Collins
Chairman

The notes on pages 26 to 38 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash income/(expenditure)		60,278	(189,322)
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Depreciation		73,491	73,491
Investment income	3	(36,358)	(735)
		97,411	(116,566)
Working capital adjustments			
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	12	(66,723)	146,751
Net cash flows from operating activities		30,688	30,185
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest receivable and similar income	3	36,358	735
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayment of loans and borrowings	12	(30,718)	(30,215)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		36,328	705
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		1,729,476	1,728,771
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		1,765,804	1,729,476

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The notes on pages 26 to 38 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance

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) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable 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 notes.

Going concern

The trustee considers that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Judgements

As outlined in Note 16, Hastings Borough Council acts as the sole trustee for the Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust. The scheme is so constituted as to prevent the Council from obtaining any benefit from the Trust's activities and no group accounts are produced. Further details of the transactions with the Council are given in Note 16.

The Statement of Accounts contains estimated figures that are based on assumptions made by the Trust about the future or that are otherwise uncertain. Estimates are made taking into account historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors. However, because balances cannot be determined with certainty, actual results could be materially different from the assumptions and estimates.

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives taking into account residual values, where appropriate. The actual lives of the assets and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. In re-assessing asset lives, factors such as the effect of the elements, maintenance programmes and past experience are taken into account. The carrying amount is £1,012,460 (2022 -£1,085,951).

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Investment income

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Charitable activities

Income from charitable activities includes income recognised as earned (as the related goods or services are provided) under contract.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Grant expenditure

Grants payable are payments made to third parties in the furtherance of the charitable objectives. Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SoFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specific service or output.

Grants payable without performance conditions are only recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made and there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the charity.

Grant provisions

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Governance costs

Governance costs include costs of the preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and the cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £500.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

The land comprising the foreshore of Hastings and St Leonards was sold to the Trust by the Crown in September 1893 for £400 and subsequent purchases between 1925 and 1934 for a further £630. No valuation of this land has ever been carried out and it is recorded at cost. Land valued at £95,000 was acquired in 2010 as part of a land swap with Hastings Borough Council. Additional expenditure of £119,490 in 2013 represents the cost of creating additional car parking spaces within the Pelham Place car park. This is being depreciated over 15 years, being the estimated time before re-surfacing becomes necessary. The trustee is of the opinion that the open market value is materially in excess of the carrying value of the land.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Land	not depreciated
Pelham Place car park additional spaces	over 15 years straight line
White Rock Baths	over 50 years straight line
Winch Road Upgrade	over 15 years straight line
Plant and equipment	over 5 and 15 years straight line

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Research and development

Research and development expenditure is written off as incurred.

Debtors

Are amounts due from Hastings Borough Council for settlement of expenditure incurred by the Trust that is to be repaid and is recognised initially at the transaction price. A provision for the impairment of it will be established when there is objective evidence that the Trust will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the charity has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustee's discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside for specific purposes at the discretion of the trustees.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Staff and pension schemes

The charity has no employees but is charged the relevant portion of those undertaking work in pursuance of the charity's objectives. These are employed by Hastings Borough Council and have the choice of being in the relevant defined benefit local government pension scheme.

2 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Car parking	1,293,454	1,293,454	1,070,974
Foreshore management	257,540	257,540	219,365
Public conveniences	562	562	452
	1,551,556	1,551,556	1,290,791

3 Investment income

	Unrestricted General £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	36,358	36,358	735
	36,358	36,358	735

4 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Car Parking	426,913	426,913	354,801
Foreshore management	554,223	554,223	501,021
Street cleansing	12,771	12,771	13,382
Public convieiences	147,624	147,624	259,228
White Rock Baths	9,000	9,000	10,622
Small end events grants	272,000	272,000	223,216
	1,422,531	1,422,531	1,362,270

5 Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Wages and salaries	6,858	6,858	7,060
Audit of the financial statements	9,116	9,116	7,150
Accountancy services	4,500	4,500	4,100
Legal fees	26,396	26,396	42,038
HBC management charges	58,230	58,230	58,230
Other governance costs	5	5	-
	105,105	105,105	118,578

6 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year include:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Audit fees	(9,116)	(7,150)
Depreciation of fixed assets	(73,491)	(73,491)

7 Trustee remuneration and expenses

Payments to the Trustee related entirely to recharges of costs incurred by HBC on behalf of the charity. These included a payment by HBC to the Chair of the Charity Committee of HBC by way of a responsibility allowance from the Council of £6,858 (2022 - £7,060), included in Governance costs.

8 Staff costs

The Trust does not directly employ any staff. As such no employee received emoluments of more that £60,000 during the year

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £55,974 (2022 - £53,688).

9 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from Corporation Tax.

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Plant and equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2022	1,144,091	573,843	1,717,934
At 31 March 2023	1,144,091	573,843	1,717,934
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2022	265,127	366,856	631,983
Charge for the year	40,514	32,977	73,491
At 31 March 2023	305,641	399,833	705,474
Net book value			
At 31 March 2023	838,450	174,010	1,012,460
At 31 March 2022	878,964	206,987	1,085,951

11 Cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash at bank	1,765,804	1,729,476

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Other creditors	93,951	173,358
Loans from Hastings Borough Council	31,231	30,719
Accruals	25,200	12,516
	150,382	216,593

13 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Loans from Hastings Borough Council	64,032	95,262

The amount is the long term portion of the £300,000 annuity loan. The loan is at 1.66%, and has biannual payments.

For the £300,000 annuity loan, to limit the potential impact on the Trust, the Council shared the risk on a 50:50 basis. For clarity, the annual borrowing costs for the year ending 31 March 2023 were £1964 (2022: £2468), if the venture failed the amount payable per annum by the Trust would be reduced by 50%. If a new tenant was found at that time but the rental stream achieved was lower, then the shortfall would be shared.

14 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
General					
Unappropriated reserve	-	1,587,914	(1,527,636)	72,724	133,002
Designated					
Contingency reserve	900,000	-	-	-	900,000
Main programme reserve	517,622	-	-	767	518,389
Fixed asset fund	1,085,951	-	-	(73,491)	1,012,460
	2,503,573	-	-	(72,724)	2,430,849
Total funds	2,503,573	1,587,914	(1,527,636)	-	2,563,851

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
General					
Unappropriated reserve	-	1,291,526	(1,480,848)	189,322	-
Designated					
Contingency reserve	900,000	-	-	-	900,000
Main programme reserve	633,453	-	-	(115,831)	517,622
Fixed asset fund	1,159,442	-	-	(73,491)	1,085,951
	2,692,895	-	-	(189,322)	2,503,573
Total funds	2,692,895	1,291,526	(1,480,848)	-	2,503,573

14 Funds (continued)

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

The Main programme reserve is held to fund the Trust's business plan initiatives and significant items of repair and maintenance that cannot be financed in a single year.

The Fixed asset fund is created to recognise that an equivalent amount of reserves has already been used, and is not available for further use.

The Unappropriated reserve represents all monies for which a specific purpose remains to be determined.

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds Designated £	Total funds at 31 March 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,012,460	1,012,460
Current assets	1,765,804	1,765,804
Current liabilities	(150,381)	(150,381)
Creditors over 1 year	(64,032)	(64,032)
Total net assets	2,563,851	2,563,851

	Unrestricted funds Designated £	Total funds at 31 March 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,085,951	1,085,951
Current assets	1,729,476	1,729,476
Current liabilities	(216,592)	(216,592)
Creditors over 1 year	(95,262)	(95,262)
Total net assets	2,503,573	2,503,573

16 Related party transactions

During the year the charity made the following related party transactions:

Hastings Borough Council
(Trustee)

The Foreshore Trust took a loan in 2016 from Hastings Borough Council to allow it to fund the conversion of White Rock Baths as a BMX centre and café.

The property belongs to the Foreshore Trust and the loan granted by Hastings Borough Council for £300,000 was for a ten year period. The Building has been leased to The Source for a period of ten years and the rental income generated will contribute to the repayment of the loan principal and interest.

The loan is repayable in biannual payments. The £300,000 annuity loan being at 1.66%, and the first payment being made on the 21st September 2016.

For the former, to limit the potential impact on the Trust, the Council would share the risk on a 50:50 basis. For clarity, the annual borrowing cost for the yeare dning 31st March 2023 were £1,964 (£2,468), if the venture failed the amount payable per annum by the Trust would be reduced by 50%. If a new tenant was found at that time but the rental stream achieved was lower, then the shortfall would be shared. At the balance sheet date the amount due to Hastings Borough Council was £189,214 (2022 - £299,339).

HASTINGS AND ST LEONARDS FORESHORE CHARITABLE TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1105649

Accounts

Charity registration number: 1105649

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

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Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Reference and Administrative Details

Chairman	Councillor Tony Collins (Appointed 23rd May 2024)
Trustee	Hastings Borough Council
Other Officers	Councillor Margi O'Callaghan, Committee Chair *(Appointed 8th June 2020 - Retired 19th May 2021)* Councillor Trevor Webb, Committee Chair *(Appointed 20th May 2021 - Retired 24h May 2022)* Councillor Ali Roark, Committee Chair *(Appointed 25th May 2022 - Retired 20th October 2022)* Councillor John Cannan, Committee Chair *(Appointed 21st October 2022, Retired 18th January 2024)* Councillor Ali Roark, Committee Chair *(Appointed 19th January 2024, retired 22nd May 2024)* Councillor Judy Rogers, Committee Member *(Appointed 16 May 2018)* Councillor Andy Batsford, Committee Member *(Appointed 10 July 2017)*
Charity Registration Number	1105649
Bankers	Lloyds Bank 17 Wellington Place Hastings TN31 1NX
Auditor	Manningtons 39 High Street Battle East Sussex TN33 0EE
Protector	Christopher May MA, FCA *(Retired 19th March 2020)* Froghole Oast House Crockham Hill Edenbridge Kent TN8 6TD
Protector	James W Cook FCA *(Appointed 20th March 2020)* The Cottage Rushlake Green Heathfield East Sussex TN21 9QH

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

The Trustee presents the annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Structure Governance and Management

Overview

The governing documents of the Charity are a conveyance from the Crown to Hastings Corporation dated 8 September 1893 and Charity Commission Scheme ref. no, 981/1011 made on 13 January 2011 (the 2011 Scheme).

The 1893 Conveyance provides that the length of foreshore between Ecclesbourne Glen and Grosvenor Gardens shall be held for the common use, benefit and enjoyment of Her Majesty's subjects and the public generally forever. Later conveyances in 1925, 1933 and 1934 conveyed the remainder of the foreshore to the Hastings Corporation on the same Trusts.

The Hastings Borough Council Act 1988 varies the Trust to permit certain uses on delineated areas of land and for the Council to charge for that use, whether provided by the Council itself or by another on the Council's behalf.

The 2011 Scheme extended the objects of the Charity to include such charitable purposes within the Borough of Hastings as the Trustee thinks fit.

The 2011 Scheme had the effect of revoking the Charity Commission Scheme dated 22 March 2006 which appointed independent Trustees and Council nominated Trustees and appointed Hastings Borough Council as the Trustee for all purposes. This report is prepared by the Trustee as required under the 2011 Scheme.

Significant changes

Councillor Margi O'Callaghan retired as Chair on 19th May 2021. Councillor Trevor Webb was appointed to the position of Chair on 20th May 2021 and retired on 25th May 2022.

Governance

i) The Trustee

Hastings Borough Council is a principal local authority established under the Local Government Act 1972 and, as such, has corporate status.

As a local authority, the Trustee acts through decisions of elected members and delegations to committees, sub-committees and officers. The Local Government Act 2000 introduced executive decision making and the legislation provided for a split between decisions which are reserved to the Council, to the Executive or according to local choice. Where the function in question is not reserved to Council or a local choice function, the default provision in the legislation is that the function and decision-making relating to it are the preserve of the executive.

This represents the position regarding the Council's function or power to administer charities, that is to say that the administration of charities is an executive function and so only the Cabinet, a committee of Cabinet or officers acting under delegations from Cabinet are legally competent to make decisions relating to the Charity. This means that for the Foreshore Trust, the Council as Trustee, acts through the Charity Committee of Cabinet.

ii) the Protector

When considering the request of the former independent Trustees to appoint the Council as Trustee, the Commission was concerned regarding the potential conflict of interest between the Council's position as charitable Trustee and as local authority and how to address this. Part of the solution was the requirement in the 2011 Scheme for the appointment of a Protector, who is required to be a qualified accountant.

Christopher May, MA, FCA, who was appointed as first Protector completed his third term as Protector on March 19th 2020 and James Cook, FCA was appointed as the New Protector effective from March 20th 2020. The role of the Protector is essentially to act as whistle blower and watchdog against the Council acting in breach of trust and to guard against situations where a conflict of interest is not being managed properly. As a chartered accountant he is equipped to scrutinise the Council's charity accounts. The Protector is required to report any matters of serious concern to the Charity Commission and must prepare an annual report on his activities for inclusion in the Charity's Annual Report.

Consultation

The 2011 Scheme makes provision for consultation in two areas of the Charity's operation. Namely:-

i) Coastal Users' Group: The Trustee is required to consult with and have regard to the recommendations of the Coastal Users' Group (CUG) in relation to certain matters, namely:-

- the standards or specifications for the maintenance of the charity's land.
- the Charity's policy relating to events and activities to be held on the Charity's land and any event/activity outside that policy.
- the Charity's policy relating to the exercise of any power under the Hastings Borough Council Act 1988 or otherwise to manage, let sell or otherwise dispose of the Charity's property, and
- the exercise of the powers under the previous bullet otherwise than in accordance with the agreed policy.

Trustee's Report (continued)

The CUG was an existing consultative group set up by the Council as local authority to consult with interested parties in relation to matters affecting the front line of the Council's area. It became the Coastal Advisory Group as required by the 2011 Scheme after adopting a formal constitution and rules for membership in early 2011. The minutes of its meetings, in so far as they relate to Foreshore Trust matters, are included in the reports submitted to each Charity Committee meeting. The CUG meets before each Charity Committee meeting (four times a year) to consider and comment on reports being submitted to the Charity Committee. The CUG is consulted each time the Foreshore Trust Business Plan is revised.

ii) Grant Advisory Panel

The object to distribute surpluses, after meeting the costs of administering the Charity and managing its assets, including the repair and insurance of its land and buildings, through grants for charitable purposes in the Borough, are subject to consultation with the Grant Advisory Panel. The 2011 Scheme provides that consultation is to take place concerning the grant criteria, grant processes and grant determinations. The Grants Advisory Panel successfully concluded the process of prioritising the 2021/22 year's round of grant making, resulting in the award of grants totalling £223k (£96.4k in Small grants & £126.7k in large grants). (2020-21 £63k in small grants).

Trustee's Report (continued)

The following grants were awarded

Organisation	Grant Awarded
18 hours ltd	2,837.80
A Band of Brothers Hastings	600.00
Association of Carers	94.00
Bohemia Arts and Music C.I.C	522.00
Change, Grow, Live (formerly CRI)	32,300.00
Citizens Advice 1066	31,581.00
Counselling Plus Community	600.00
Creative Space Science CIC	460.00
Cruse Bereavement Care	5,617.80
Culture Shift CIC	180.00
Energise Sussex Coast Ltd	3,420.00
ETC Sussex (Education Training Consortium Sussex)	3,808.90
Hastings & District Canoe Club	1,627.80
Hastings & Rother YMCA	2,310.00
Hastings Advice & Representation Centre	44,050.20
Hastings Arts Forum	229.00
Hastings Community Transport Ltd	600.00
Hastings Fishermen's Protection Society	476.00
Hastings Furniture Service Ltd	520.00
Hastings Thrives	2,000.00
Hastings Voluntary Action	11,878.00
His Place Community Church	5,400.00
Holy Trinity Church Hastings	386.00
Home Live Art Ltd	6,000.00
Mr R G Maxted Zoom Arts	169.00
National Literacy Trust	442.00
Ore Community Land Trust	200.00
Seaview Projects	28,000.00
Southwater Area Community Centre	4,977.00
St Helen's PCC	1,847.80
St Leonards Festival	5,300.00
St Matthews Residents Association	2,820.00
Tempo Arts	3,478.90
The Fellowship of St Nicholas (FSN)	5,340.00
The Links Project	11,140.00
The Sussex Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus	1,636.70
XTRAX	366.00
Grand Total	**223,215.90**

Trustee's Report (continued)

Delegation to Officers

At its first meeting on 25 January 2011, the Charity Committee agreed a Scheme of Delegation to Officers. From the 1 April 2012 the Scheme of Delegations has required amending, replacing the Chief Executive with an appropriate Director and his/her nominee as a result of a senior management restructure. The new Scheme of Delegations follows the pattern of the Council's Scheme of Delegations to Officers, in that the appropriate Director or their duly authorised nominee is authorised within the plan and budget agreed by the Charity Committee to undertake the day to day operation and management of the Charity. The authority is general and subject to certain exceptions including the disposal of land, use of the Charity's land for events outside of the agreed policy, grants for charitable purposes and specification for and the award of contracts affecting the Charity, which are all subject to consultation and then the decision of the Charity Committee. The Scheme of Delegation emphasises that the Directors or their nominees acting under the delegations must be mindful that they are acting on behalf of the Charity and not the Council and ensure that at all times they act in the best interests of the Charity.

The officers authorised for most purposes affecting the Charity's Day to day operation and management are:-

- Victoria Conheady, Assistant Director Regeneration and Culture.
- Kit Wheeler, Chief Finance Officer.
- Amy Terry, Property and Commercial Assets Manager
- Mary Kilner is the Monitoring Officer and the Chief Legal Officer, and is also the Authorised Signatory on behalf of the Charity

In case of actual or potential conflict of interest for officers, independent advisors are instructed on behalf of the Charity e.g. surveyors.

Training and Induction for the Trustee

Training is provided for members and officers covering training on the history of the Trust, the constitutional documentation of the Trust and how to put those into effect.

Training has been offered to all members of the Council to raise awareness and to keep them advised.

Risk Management

The charity maintains a risk register and formally reviews this on an annual basis when determining the reserves policy. Initially this identified the key financial risks facing the Trust but continues to be developed to include the identification of all significant risks (it also includes the identification of relevant controls to mitigate and responsibilities).

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report (continued)

Objectives

The 2011 Scheme states the objects of the Charity to be:-

(i) to hold and maintain the charity's land for the objects set out in the trusts of the Charity, namely for the common use, benefit and enjoyment of all Her Majesty's subjects and of the public for the time being forever; and

(ii) subject to (i) above, such charitable purposes within the area of the Borough of Hastings as the Trustee thinks fit.

The Scheme expressly provides that income and capital are first to be applied in meeting the proper costs of administering the Charity and of managing its assets including the repair and insurance of its land and buildings. After payment of these costs, the Trustee must apply the remaining income in furthering the objects of the Charity.

Achievements and Performance

Achievements and Performance

This was the tenth full financial year for the Council as Trustee of the Foreshore Trust. The Charity met four times during the year and the main business was:

• The delivery of the Trust's new rolling five-year Business Plan.
• Management of small and events grants (up to £5,000) to local charitable organisations; Round 4 was launched in Oct 2020 for April 2021 start.
Round 5 was launched in Oct 2021 for April 2022 start.
The Large Grant programme was launched in 2020 for April 2021 until March 2024.
• Agreement of the budget for 2022/23 and financial report.

Refurbishment of White Rock Water Feature

Following the refurbishment of the White Rock Baths in 2016 and the opening of the Source Park as a BMX and skateboard venue, the water feature above the building remained a key eyesore in this area of the promenade. The Council, as trustee was successful in securing funding from the fourth round of the national Coastal Communities Fund (CCF) to replace the redundant fountain with new feature for enjoyment on the Hastings seafront.

The new feature, titled 'Sea Mist', creates a new destination space at the promenade and complements existing adjacent assets. It uses high-quality long-lasting materials, specifically for the misters and paving which will be subject to coastal elements and regular water coverage from the mister jets. Substantial waterproofing to the fountain space/roof structure provided, thereby further mitigating against water ingress into The Source Park below.
Programming feature for the misters to turn on/off, thereby minimising water usage and provides the option to turn off overnight. The feature includes a good-sized mobility access plaza space – enhancing the objective of creating a destination and a social space.

Additional funding totalling £79,000 was obtained from the CCF programme to complete the refurbishment and restoration of the feature was completed in early April 2020.
The fountain feature also included a small drinking water point, but this was removed due to damage.

Trustee's Report (continued)

Car Parks

The Foreshore Trust derives its income mainly from car parking and property leases/licences, the former income stream being quite variable. The area hardest hit by lockdown restrictions has been Car Parking Income for Pelham and Rock a Nore.

In the year 2020/2021 with lock down restrictions in place car park occupancy at times went as low as 5% with income severely reduced from April to June. Government restrictions eased during the period from July to October with schemes such as 'Eat out to Help Out' actually saw income increase on previous years for August, September and October but as restrictions returned income reduced for the remainder of the financial year. Car Park Operating expenditure was also lower because of lockdown restrictions.

In the year 2021/22, the Welcome Back Fund was launched. The funding allowed local authorities to put additional measures in place to create and promote safe environment for local trade and tourism. Interventions on Foreshore Trust assets included recruitment of car park staff and cleansing operatives. (funding timeline was April 2021-March 2022)

Grounds Maintenance

There are no significant changes to the foreshore grounds maintenance contract. For the Trust, the annual cost of seafront grounds maintenance has reduced. The ground maintenance contract has been operated by Idverde since 2016. The refreshed business plan will include revised management arrangements for seafront landscaping.

The Stade

Stade Hall is now operated by the East Sussex College Group – their plans for the building includes commercial lettings and activities, adult education for community partners project and advanced learners project, offering 'level 3' bespoke fish mongering, butchery and patisserie courses.

The college had also agreed to a significant community element working with Hastings Voluntary Action to promote volunteering opportunities for long term unemployed, working with Billingsgate seafood training school and the Foreshore Trust to develop a programme with school involvement to promote sea food cooking; linking with community partners; and offering employability skills, and apprenticeship qualifications, at Stade Hall.

Please note that not all the above activities have commenced as the new arrangements are still in the early phase of the operating agreement and have obviously been severely impacted by Covid.

The Stade Hall was managed and operated by East Sussex College Hastings since January 2019.

Stade open space

This area continues to be used both as a public open space and an events venue.

Maintenance and repair work

During the year resurfacing works were carried out on footpaths but overall there was less projects & repairs carried out in the year due to lockdown restrictions.

Trustee's Report (continued)

Promenade and Beach

Lifeguard Service
As a result of the success of the pilot, at the charity committee meeting on 11th December 2017 the committee agreed unanimously to enter into a three-year contract with the RNLI to provide the Hastings lifeguard service.

A number of 'tweaks' were made to the service following the pilot, including earlier starts at all three sites - Pelham, Pier, and Marina. 2020 was the third full year of the three-year contract, and on 29th March 2021 the charity committee agreed to enter into a further three-year contract with the RNLI for the RNLI to provide lifeguarding services at Hastings, for the 2021 -2023 (inclusive) seasons.

In 2021 there were 45 incidents, involving a total of 45 people. No lifesaving intervention was needed, 7 people were rescued, 12 assisted, major first aid rendered to 6 people, minor first aid was given to 12 people. A further 16,870 face to face 'preventative actions' were carried out.

Cycle and deck chair hire concession
The service did not continue in 2021/22 due to the poor 2020 Summer season.

Street and beach cleansing
Welcome Back Funding increased street and beach cleaning facilitation during Summer 2021.

Quality Coast Award/Blue Flag status
The council continued to achieve the Seaside Award for Pelham beach, and the combined Blue Flag and Seaside Award for Marina beach.

Public Benefit
The objects of the Charity clearly state that the Foreshore is to be held for the benefit of Her Majesty's subjects and the public generally forever. Where the land is beach and beach alone, the objects are achieved by ensuring that the public have free and safe access to the Foreshore. However, maintaining land in proper condition has a cost and the Charity requires an income to meet its expenditure. The Hastings Borough Council Act 1988 varied the original Trusts' to permit certain uses on defined areas of the Trust's land. For example, paid parking was permissible at Rock–a-Nore Car Park and at Pelham Car Park and leisure facilities were permitted in the Stade area.

These variations to the Trust powers enabled the generation of income to meet the costs of maintaining the Foreshore. The uses permitted under the Act, however, are seen as complementary to the Trust objects and the Trustee will exercise its powers under the Act to satisfy the requirement for the benefit of the public.

So far as is possible and subject to the uses permitted under the Act, the aim of the Trustees is that the Foreshore should be accessible by all members of the public who wish to visit it. At the same time, part of the Foreshore is a working beach and so health and safety considerations apply.

The 2011 Scheme included a new object to distribute surpluses as grants for charitable purposes within the Borough of Hastings. There have been seven rounds of small grants the first of which took place in 2011/12. Grants for events on Foreshore Land commenced in 2013/14 and have been repeated annually.

Trustee's Report (continued)

The Trustee has indicated a willingness to undertake further capital works to assets if financially sustainable, which conform to the Trust's objects.
There will be different views on how the public benefit is best achieved and the Charity Committee will continue to consult with the Coastal Users' Group on proposals for the future of the Foreshore and specifications and standards of maintenance and with the Grant Advisory Panel on the grant criteria and grants processes.

In addition, whilst the Council undertook the role as Trustee from January 2011, it has been operating and managing the Foreshore and its assets without interruption over many years. The operations include:

- keeping the Charity's land safe and clean;
- operating the Charity's car parks;
- managing its tenanted premises;
- arranging and facilitating events on the Foreshore;
- undertaking routine maintenance and repair.

Financial Review

The annual accounts are attached to this report and, once again, have received an unqualified audit opinion by external auditors. The Trust's main sources of income remain that of car parking fees and charges and rental income from property. The expenditure that the Trust incurs is as a result of providing the car parks e.g. operating costs, and the costs of maintaining and developing the foreshore .

Investments – The Trust retains significant cash balances. At 31 March 2022 these were invested as follows:-

	2021/22	2020/21
	£	£
CCLA Investment Management	1,728,902	1,728,167
Lloyds Bank (the Trust's Bank Account)	574	604

Trustee's Report (continued)

The following table compares the major elements of the budget to the actual income and expenditure for the financial year:-

Statement of Financial Activities

	Budget 2021-22	Actual Outturn 2021-22
	£'000	£'000
Incoming Resources		
Investment Income	5	1
Incoming resources from Charitable activities	1,080	1,071
Rental income	218	218
Total incoming resources	1,303	1,290
Resources Expended		
Loan repayments	33	33
Charitable Activities* (excluding Capital charges)	965	1,011
Maintenance projects and cyclical repairs	140	13
Governance costs	154	154
Total resources expended	1,292	1,211
Total Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	12	80
Small / Event Grants	97	96
Large Grants	162	127
Projects**	51	46
Surplus/(Deficit)	(299)	(189)

The surplus before grants and reserve funded items and capital charges was £80,000.

The overall outturn position was a deficit of £189,000 and capital charges of £73,491 (2020/21 deficit of £150,000).

Trustee's Report (continued)

Future Expenditure Plans 2022/23 and Beyond

In line with the approved Business plan, expenditure on major Projects and Other Expenditure will continue in 2022/23 and will result in an overall surplus for the year, estimating an overall deficit of £99,000.

Future business plan projects commencing in 2022/23 include surfacing works to footpaths and playground areas, White Rock Promenade rationalization of timber seating, benches & waste bins. Kiosk decking and landscaping adjacent to boating lake.

The 2021/22 budget identified spend on projects and other expenditure amounting to some £172,500. £127,500 of this spend is on cyclical repairs and maintenance and £25,000 is programmed spend, financed from Reserves. The areas of spend are as follows:-

- £24,000 – Car Park Maintenance and repairs (Lighting, barriers, cleaning gullies and re-surfacing).
- £20,000 – White Rock Promenade timber seating, benches and waste bins.
- £15,000 – Maintenance of Play areas and equipment.
- £12,000 – Contingency Budget for emergency Repairs
- £10,000 – White Rock Baths external decoration
- £ 6,000 – Maintenance of Public Conveniences
- £ 25,000 – Project Work Contingency

The current business plan, includes the following for Projects and Other Expenditure for the years 2022/23 to 2024/25 is shown below:-

Trustee's Report (continued)

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION OF WORK	2022-2023 Budget	2023-2024 Estimate	2024-2025 Estimate	Total Estimate 2022-2024
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Beach - Other	Other repairs and renewals beachfront area	12	12	0	**24**
Car Parks - Pelham	Maintenance	6	6	0	**12**
Car Parks Rock a Nore	Maintenance	6	6	0	**12**
Chalets - White Rock & Marina	Maintenance	2	2	0	**4**
Cycle Hire Hut	Main walls - external redecoration	0	1	0	**1**
Cycle Hire Hut	Roofs - routine re-felting	0	1	0	**1**
Pelham Place Car Park	Tarmac surfacing - routine minor maintenance	2	0	2	**4**
Pelham Place Car Park	Clean out car park drainage gullies and channels	0	1	0	**1**
Pelham Place Car Park	Traffic speed humps - repair / replacement	0	5	4	**9**
Pelham Place Car Park	Vehicle height barrier at entrance	3	3	3	**9**
Pelham Place Car Park	Car park lighting columns - maintain LED lamps	1	1	1	**2**
Pelham Place Car Park	Car park information and direction signage	0	0	1	**1**
Pelham Place Public Conveniences	Main walls - external redecorations	0	0	3	**3**
Pelham Place Public Conveniences	Interior - internal redecorations	0	0	1	**1**
Pelham Playa (netted MUGA)	Replacement of roof netting system	0	10	0	**10**
Pelham Playa (netted MUGA)	Replacement of playing surface complete	0	30	0	**30**
Pelham Playground	Repair of play proprietary play equipment	3	3	3	**9**
Play Areas and Exercise Equipment	Maintenance of equipment	15	15	0	**30**
Play Hire Huts (Former Life Guards' Huts)	Main walls - external redecoration	1	0	0	**1**
Play Hire Huts (Former Life Guards' Huts)	Roofs - routine re-felting	0	2	0	**2**
Promenade Adult Exercise Equipment	Replacement / repair of equipment	0	2	0	**2**
Promenade Finger Posts	Redecoration and repair	0	1	0	**1**
Public Conveniences	Maintenance	6	6	0	**12**
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Hard Surfaced	Clean out car park drainage gullies and channels	1	0	1	**2**
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Hard Surfaced	Repair and replacement of metal bollards	0	2	0	**2**
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Hard Surfaced	Vehicle height barrier at car park entrance	3	3	3	**9**
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Hard Surfaced	Car park lighting columns - maintain LED lamps	1	1	1	**2**
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Hard Surfaced	Car park information and direction signage	0	0	1	**1**
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Loose Surface	Scarify and fill pot holes in loose surface finish	5	5	5	**15**
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Loose Surface	Replacement of damaged timber bollards	0	1	0	**1**
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Loose Surface	Repair timber kerb baulks to south boundary	0	0	2	**2**
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Loose Surface	Replace timber kerb baulks to south boundary	30	0	0	**30**
Stade and Stade Kitchen	Maintenance	3	3	0	**6**
Stade Barriers	Annual maintenance	2	2	0	**4**
Stade Hall	Interior spaces - internal redecoration	20	0	0	**20**
Stade Hall	Main hall & kitchen - renewal of floor coverings	10	0	0	**10**
Stade Open Space	Drainage gulley clearance	1	1	1	**2**
Stade Open Space	Bench redecoration and remove shingle build up	3	0	0	**3**
Stade Open Space	Automatic bollard and barrier replacement	0	0	10	**10**
Stade Public Conveniences	Interior spaces - internal redecoration	6	0	0	**6**
White Rock Baths	External redecoration/ Building maintenance	10	10	0	**20**
White Rock Baths - Lower Basement	Additional pump hire if above adopted.	8	8	8	**24**
White Rock Baths - Lower Basement	Sewage tank and pump set - maintenance	1	1	1	**2**
White Rock Baths - Main & Small Hall Level	Further protection of interior spaces from water ingress	0	5	0	**5**
White Rock Baths - Promenade Level	Main central entrance superstructure and lightwell upper and lower walls	15	0	0	**15**
White Rock Beach Chalets	Timber walls - external redecoration	5	0	0	**5**
White Rock Promenade - Timber Kiosk Decking	Timber decking and ramps around kiosk -minor repairs	0	1	0	**1**
White Rock Promenade (FST owned area only)	Timber seating, benches, waste bins, & planters - repairs and maintenance.	1	1	0	**1**
Winch Road	Maintenance & lighting	2	2	0	**4**
Total of Cyclical Repairs and Redecorations		**182**	**150**	**49**	**380**
Projects (main programme)					
Contingency	Project Work Contingency	25	25	0	**50**
Total Projects - Main Programme		**25**	**25**	**0**	**50**
TOTAL PROGRAMME		**207**	**175**	**49**	**430**

Trustee's Report (continued)

Cost of Professional Advice

Professional advisor fees (including Protector's fees) - £24,005 (2020/21 £16,657)

Auditors/Accountants - £ 7,150 (2020/21 £4,000).

Trustee Expenses and Emoluments

There were no Trustee expenses charged to the Trust in 2021/22 (2020/21 nil).
A special responsibility allowance of £7,060 (2020/21 £6,507) was paid to the Chair of the Charity Committee and this is shown as Governance costs in the accounts.

Reserves Policy

The policy is reviewed periodically to take account of changes in the future plans of the Trust and perceived risks. The last review was 24 September 2018 and there have been no significant changes since this date which require a change to the policy. Reserves are maintained for a variety of reasons and the main points of the Policy are reproduced below.

a) £100,000 is to be retained for an unforeseen emergency or other unexpected need. This amount is arrived at after considering risks and how much might be needed for such contingencies; this involves judgment of events that may occur and their likelihood.

b) Expenditure budget - a small contingency fund to meet unforeseen operational costs. The expenditure budget is some £1.2m. It is suggested that a 10% contingency (say £100,000) be retained for unexpected and unforeseen operational expenditure.

c) Uncertainty over future income. Most well run organisations retain reserves equivalent to a number of weeks or months of equivalent income to allow time to develop new sources of income or to cut-back on related expenditure. Potential significant loss of income could result from a downturn in economic activity or an increase in fuel costs resulting in fewer tourists, a major disaster in the area, bad weather, pollution incident, or loss of reputation e.g. bathing water deterioration, etc. It is recommended that the equivalent of 6 months income be retained to cater for this risk which would amount to around £700,000.

d) Planned spending commitments which cannot be met from future income would imply a need for a specific sum to be set aside, often this amount will be included within designations in the accounts. Given the predicted surplus for each year there is scope to include some of the recurring planned expenditure within the annual budget. There are higher cost initiatives e.g. resurfacing of car parks, roadways etc., that will necessitate identification and retention of significant sums within the accounts.

e) Cash Flow – organisations require a working balance to cover 'troughs' in the cash budget. Based on the financial year the cash flow is expected to be positive throughout the year i.e. income generated should exceed expenditure. Where significant one off expenditure is incurred e.g. resurfacing, use of reserves would be used to cover any shortfalls. As such no sum is set aside for this specific purpose – especially given the sums detailed above (a to d).

Trustee's Report (continued)

f) In summary the Reserves to be retained amount to :-

Ref.	Risk Area/ Designated Funds	Amount (£)
a)	Unforeseen emergency/event	100,000
b)	Unforeseen operational costs/contingency	100,000
c)	Uncertainty on Income streams	700,000
	Total	**900,000**

Plus Planned Spending Commitments e.g. repairs and other initiatives identified within the business plan.

The total funds of the Trust, of which the above form a part, amount to £2,503,573 (2020/21 £2,692,895). The financing of the main programme is dependent upon achieving annual surpluses on the trust's main activities, given the level of Reserves being retained.

Plans for the Future

The Charity Committee looks to review its Business Plan on a regular basis to take account of known variations in resources and new opportunities and commitments. Subject to the Scheme's predetermination that meeting the cost of the administration and the repair and maintenance of its existing assets is the first priority; this will involve consideration of proposals for enhancing income generation and/or reducing operating expenditure as well as providing better facilities and attractions for the public benefit.

The current business plan will be reviewed and updated to present at the end of the 2024/25 financial year.

Accountants, Auditors and Bankers

The Trust has been grateful for the excellent work of Manningtons (Auditors) in carrying out the audit of the Trust's accounts.

The Trust's monies are managed by the Council. The bankers are Lloyds Bank, which is the same as the Council with separate bank accounts. The Council's comprehensive Treasury Management and Investment Policy requirements equally apply when dealing with Trust monies.

Concluding Remarks

The Trust continues to concentrate efforts on ensuring a secure and viable future for the Trust, especially in terms of maintaining and improving its assets, managing its available resources for the long term benefit of the community, and also in the distribution of grants to the benefit of the Community - as resources permit.

Trustee's Report (continued)

Statement of Responsibilities

The trustee is responsible for preparing the trustee's report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities requires the trustee to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustee is 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustee is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustee is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Disclosure of information to auditor

The trustee has taken steps that it ought to have taken as a member in order to make itself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information. The trustee confirms that there is no relevant information that is known of and of which they know the auditor is unaware.

The annual report is signed on behalf of the trustee by:

.....
Councillor Tony Collins
Chair of Charity Committee

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Protector's Report

This is my second full Annual Report as Protector of The Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust ("Foreshore Trust") since my appointment on 20th March 2020.

The rules of the Foreshore Trust call for the appointment of a Protector to safeguard the proper management of this charitable trust and, in particular, the resolution of any conflicts of interest that may arise from time to time between Hastings Borough Council ("HBC") acting as Trustee of this charity and HBC acting in its capacity as local authority. To this end, the rules provide that the general duty of the Protector is "to ensure the integrity of the administration of the charity", in other words to act as a watchdog over the activities of HBC's Charity Committee in managing the affairs of the Foreshore Trust.

(1) I have attended all meetings of the Charity Committee.

(2) (2) Under the constitution of the Foreshore Trust the Trustee must consult two advisory bodies: (1) a nominated consultative and advisory group (currently the Coastal Users' Group - "CUG") in relation to major foreshore management issues, and (2) the Grants Advisory Panel ("GAP") which deals with the detailed process of recommending grants to be made by the Trustee under powers given in the Scheme. The Protector is entitled to attend the meetings of these groups and I have attended all meetings of the CUG and those of the Charity Planning Committee which discusses the recommendations of the GAP.

(3) (3) The Foreshore Trust has decided to extend its charitable activities significantly in the next few years following the decision of HBC (in its capacity as local authority) to cease as from April 2021 its financial support for the Community Partnership Fund (previously administered by HBC officers), much of whose activities were in practice directed towards charitable objectives. During the year to 31st March 2022 there were therefore no further contributions made under the Community Partnership Fund. The extension of the Trust's charitable activities has resulted in the establishment of a "Large Grant Programme" with charitable objectives similar in many respects to those of the Community Partnership Fund. The new programme amounted to some £127,000 in 2021-22 and will amount to £182,000 in the two subsequent years. Members of the Charity Committee and senior HBC officers have been at pains to ensure that:

(a) The activities of the Large Grant Programme will be genuinely charitable in nature;

(b) Grant recommendations to the members of the Charity Committee will be made by the GAP, not by the HBC officers previously responsible for making Community Partnership Fund recommendations, though they will be available in an advisory capacity to the GAP;

(c) Procedures will be introduced to ensure that all eligible applications will be placed before the GAP, and any applications considered ineligible by HBC staff members will be reported to and considered by the GAP;

(d) Potential conflict of interest issues will be properly addressed and resolved - these might relate to Charity Committee or GAP members with personal involvement with particular charities.

Following this development, the Charity Commission was requested for a minor amendment to the 2011 Scheme to allow for the appointment of two extra members of the GAP to cope with the extra work load, and this has now been granted and implemented.

Protector's Report (continued)

(4) During the period to which this report relates, I have been satisfied as Protector that the Trustee (HBC), acting through its Charity Committee, has satisfactorily ensured the integrity of the administration of the affairs of the Foreshore Trust, as required by the current Scheme of constitution.

James W Cook FCA
Protector
Date: 30/10/2024

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Qualified Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2022, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement, 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 United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the basis for qualified opinion section of our report, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of its 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 Charities Act 2011.

Basis for qualified opinion on financial statements

We were unable to obtain sufficient audit evidence pertaining to the source data of transactions of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust at 31 March 2022. All bookkeeping is maintained in-house by Hastings Borough Council (HBC) and apportionment of various costs and income are based on actual ownership by the Charity. The income and expenditure is managed by HBC and is transacted via their bank accounts.

We are able to verify all rents due, grants received, interest received and review the other income streams for expectation and reasonableness. Similarly we are able to verify related costs, however all evidence provided is in the name of HBC and not of the charity.

HBC has not issued final accounts for the year ending 31st March 2022 and has not had an audit completed. Therefore no comfort can be obtained from their published accounts for the same period.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustee 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 charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the original financial statements were authorised for issue.

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

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust (continued)

Other information

The trustee is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. 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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustee's Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Report) Regulations 2008 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 financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustee remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustee

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustee Responsibilities [set out on page 16], the trustee is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustee 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 trustee is responsible for assessing the charity'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 trustee either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust (continued)

Auditor 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.

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 extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

The detection of fraud and irregularities is a primary consideration of the audit planning and is carried through to the audit completion stage. A risk assessment and preliminary analytical review is undertaken at the planning stage and areas of concern are then built into the audit strategy and testing to ensure sufficient procedures and evidence is obtained to give comfort that material irregularities and potential instances of fraud are detected where possible.

The audit team is briefed regarding any areas or concern, the potential audit risks and consequential impact. The audit team remained vigilant throughout their work and made enquiries of key management personnel throughout.

Key management were consulted on any known or suspected breaches in laws and regulations along with misappropriation of funds at both the planning and completion stages of the audit. Due consideration was given to the possible use of management override and this was built into our audit strategy.

The purpose of the preliminary analytical review of the financial statements is to highlight any possible areas of concern to investigate whether the variance is expected or unexpected, based on the information obtained as part of the planning process and the current climate the charity is operating under. Relevant audit tests had then been planned to obtain supporting documentation to ensure that they are within the charitable objectives and no misappropriation of funds by way of fraud, or misstatements. Latest accounts disclosure checklists available are also completed to ensure the accounts comply with the latest reporting framework that is applicable to the charity.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust (continued)

There are aspects of the audit which are deliberately unpredictable to assist in the detection of irregularities, such as varying how we test items which are more susceptible to fraud, year on year and by incorporating systematic sampling over the populations tested.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: 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 charity trustee, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the trustee those matters we are required to state to trustee in an auditors' 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 charity and its trustee as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

.....
(Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Manningtons, Statutory Auditor

39 High Street
Battle
East Sussex
TN33 0EE

Date:.....

Manningtons is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Charitable activities	3	1,290,791	1,290,791
Investment income	4	735	735
Total Income		1,291,526	1,291,526
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	5	(1,362,270)	(1,362,270)
Governance costs	6	(118,578)	(118,578)
Total Expenditure		(1,480,848)	(1,480,848)
Net movement in funds		(189,322)	(189,322)
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		2,692,895	2,692,895
Total funds carried forward	15	2,503,573	2,503,573

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2021 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	2	95,880	95,880
Charitable activities	3	903,265	903,265
Investment income	4	2,050	2,050
Total Income		1,001,195	1,001,195
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	5	(1,119,703)	(1,119,703)
Governance costs	6	(79,995)	(79,995)
Total Expenditure		(1,199,698)	(1,199,698)
Net movement in funds		(198,503)	(198,503)
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		2,891,398	2,891,398
Total funds carried forward	15	2,692,895	2,692,895

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2021 is shown in note 15.

(Registration number: 1105649)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	1,085,951	1,159,442
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand	12	1,729,476	1,728,771
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	(216,592)	(69,337)
Net current assets		1,512,884	1,659,434
Total assets less current liabilities		2,598,835	2,818,876
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	14	(95,262)	(125,981)
Net assets		2,503,573	2,692,895
Funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		2,503,573	2,692,895
Total funds	15	2,503,573	2,692,895

The financial statements on pages 10 to 39 were approved by the trustee, and authorised for issue on ..... and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Councillor Tony Collins
Chair of Charity Committee

Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash expenditure		(189,322)	(198,503)
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Depreciation		73,491	73,491
Investment income	4	(735)	(2,050)
		(116,566)	(127,062)
Working capital adjustments			
Decrease in debtors		-	150,404
Increase in creditors	13	146,751	33,002
Decrease in deferred income	14	-	(26,624)
Net cash flows from operating activities		30,185	29,720
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest receivable and similar income	4	735	2,050
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayment of loans and borrowings	13	(30,215)	(29,720)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		705	2,050
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		1,728,771	1,726,721
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		1,729,476	1,728,771

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

Going concern

The trustee considers that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

Judgements

As outlined in Note 17, Hastings Borough Council acts as the sole trustee for the Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust. The scheme is so constituted as to prevent the Council from obtaining any benefit from the Trust's activities and no group accounts are produced. Further details of the transactions with the Council are given in Note 14 and Note 17.

The Statement of Accounts contains estimated figures that are based on assumptions made by the Trust about the future or that are otherwise uncertain. Estimates are made taking into account historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors. However, because balances cannot be determined with certainty, actual results could be materially different from the assumptions and estimates.

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives taking into account residual values, where appropriate. The actual lives of the assets and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. In re-assessing asset lives, factors such as the effect of the elements, maintenance programmes and past experience are taken into account. The carrying amount is £1,085,951 (2021 -£1,159,442).

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Investment income

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

Charitable activities

Income from charitable activities includes income recognised as earned (as the related goods or services are provided) under contract.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Grant expenditure

Grants payable are payments made to third parties in the furtherance of the charitable objectives. Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SoFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specific service or output.

Grants payable without performance conditions are only recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made and there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the charity.

Grant provisions

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

Governance costs

Governance costs include costs of the preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and the cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

Government grants

Government grants are recognised based on the accrual model and are measured at the fair value of the asset received or receivable. Grants are classified as relating either to revenue or to assets. Grants relating to revenue are recognised in income over the period in which the related costs are recognised. Grants relating to assets are recognised over the expected useful life of the asset. Where part of a grant relating to an asset is deferred, it is recognised as deferred income.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £500.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

The land comprising the foreshore of Hastings and St Leonards was sold to the Trust by the Crown in September 1893 for £400 and subsequent purchases between 1925 and 1934 for a further £630. No valuation of this land has ever been carried out and it is recorded at cost. Land valued at £95,000 was acquired in 2010 as part of a land swap with Hastings Borough Council. Additional expenditure of £119,490 in 2013 represents the cost of creating additional car parking spaces within the Pelham Place car park. This is being depreciated over 15 years, being the estimated time before re-surfacing becomes necessary. The trustee is of the opinion that the open market value is materially in excess of the carrying value of the land.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Land	not depreciated
Pelham Place car park additional spaces	over 15 years straight line
White Rock Baths	over 50 years straight line
Winch Road Upgrade	over 15 years straight line
Plant and equipment	over 5 and 15 years straight line

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

Research and development

Research and development expenditure is written off as incurred.

Debtors

Are amounts due from Hastings Borough Council for settlement of expenditure incurred by the Trust that is to be repaid and is recognised initially at the transaction price. A provision for the impairment of it will be established when there is objective evidence that the Trust will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the charity has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustee discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside for specific purposes at the discretion of the trustees.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

Staff and pension schemes

The charity has no employees but is charged the relevant portion of those undertaking work in pursuance of the charity's objectives. These are employed by Hastings Borough Council and have the choice of being in the relevant defined benefit local government pension scheme.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Grants, including capital grants;		
European Fisheries Fund	-	95,880
	-	95,880

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Car Parking	1,070,974	1,070,974	650,571
Foreshore management	219,365	219,365	251,987
Public conveniences	452	452	707
	1,290,791	1,290,791	903,265

4 Investment income

	Unrestricted General £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	735	735	2,050
	735	735	2,050

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Car Parking	354,801	354,801	361,044
Foreshore management	501,021	501,021	498,445
Street cleansing	13,382	13,382	11,150
Public conveniences	259,228	259,228	174,401
White Rock Baths	10,622	10,622	3,225
Small end events grants	223,216	223,216	71,438
	1,362,270	1,362,270	1,119,703

6 Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Wages and salaries	7,060	7,060	6,507
Audit of the financial statements	7,150	7,150	3,590
Accountancy services	4,100	4,100	2,460
Legal fees	42,038	42,038	8,876
HBC management charges	58,230	58,230	58,230
Other governance costs	-	-	332
	118,578	118,578	79,995

Increase in Accountancy and audit costs in year is due to an under-provision in the 2021 Financial Statements due to the delay in finalisation and approval of the Financial Statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

7 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net outgoing resources for the year include:

	2022 £	2021 £
Audit fees	7,150	3,590
Depreciation of fixed assets	73,491	73,491

8 Trustee remuneration and expenses

Payments to the Trustee related entirely to recharges of costs incurred by HBC on behalf of the charity. These included a payment by HBC to the Chair of the Charity Committee of HBC by way of a responsibility allowance from the Council of £7,060 (2021 - £6,507), included in Governance costs.

9 Staff costs

The Trust does not directly employ any staff. As such no employee received emoluments of more that £60,000 during the year

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £17,186 (2021 - £14,593).

10 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from Corporation Tax.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Plant and equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2021	1,144,091	573,843	1,717,934
At 31 March 2022	1,144,091	573,843	1,717,934
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2021	224,613	333,879	558,492
Charge for the year	40,514	32,977	73,491
At 31 March 2022	265,127	366,856	631,983
Net book value			
At 31 March 2022	878,964	206,987	1,085,951
At 31 March 2021	919,478	239,964	1,159,442

12 Cash and cash equivalents

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash at bank	1,729,476	1,728,771

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Other creditors	173,358	26,423
Loans from Hastings Borough Council	30,719	30,215
Accruals	12,516	12,699
	216,593	69,337

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

14 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Loans from Hastings Borough Council	95,262	125,981

The amount is the long term portion of the £300,000 annuity loan. The loan is at 1.66%, and has biannual payments.

For the £300,000 annuity loan, to limit the potential impact on the Trust, the Council shared the risk on a 50:50 basis. For clarity, the annual borrowing cost for the year ending 31st March 2022 was £2,468 (2021: £2963). If the venture failed the amount payable per annum by the Trust would be reduced by 50%. If a new tenant was found at that time but the rental stream achieved was lower, then the shortfall would be shared.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

15 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
General					
Unappropriated reserve	-	1,291,526	(1,480,848)	189,322	-
Designated					
Contingency reserve	900,000	-	-	-	900,000
Main programme reserve	633,453	-	-	(115,831)	517,622
Fixed asset fund	1,159,442	-	-	(73,491)	1,085,951
	2,692,895	-	-	(189,322)	2,503,573
Total funds	2,692,895	1,291,526	(1,480,848)	-	2,503,573

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
Unrestricted funds					
General					
Unappropriated reserve	-	1,001,195	(1,199,698)	198,503	-
Designated					
Contingency reserve	900,000	-	-	-	900,000
Main programme reserve	758,465	-	-	(125,012)	633,453
Fixed asset fund	1,232,933	-	-	(73,491)	1,159,442
	2,891,398	-	-	(198,503)	2,692,895
Total funds	2,891,398	1,001,195	(1,199,698)	-	2,692,895

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

The Main programme reserve is held to fund the Trust's business plan initiatives and significant items of repair and maintenance that cannot be financed in a single year.

The Fixed asset fund is created to recognise that an equivalent amount of reserves has already been used, and is not available for further use.

The Unappropriated reserve represents all monies for which a specific purpose remains to be determined.

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds Designated £	Total funds at 31 March 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,085,951	1,085,951
Current assets	1,729,476	1,729,476
Current liabilities	(216,592)	(216,592)
Creditors over 1 year	(95,262)	(95,262)
Total net assets	2,503,573	2,503,573

	Unrestricted funds Designated £	Total funds at 31 March 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,159,442	1,159,442
Current assets	1,728,771	1,728,771
Current liabilities	(69,337)	(69,337)
Creditors over 1 year	(125,981)	(125,981)
Total net assets	2,692,895	2,692,895

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

17 Related party transactions

During the year the charity made the following related party transactions:

Hastings Borough Council
(Trustee)

The Foreshore Trust took a loan in 2016 from Hastings Borough Council to allow it to fund the conversion of White Rock Baths as a BMX centre and café.

The property belongs to the Foreshore Trust and the loan granted by Hastings Borough Council for £300,000 was for a ten year period. The Building has been leased to The Source for a period of ten years and the rental income generated will contribute to the repayment of the loan principal and interest.

The loan is repayable in biannual payments. The £300,000 annuity loan being at 1.66%, and the first payment being made on the 21st September 2016.

For the former, to limit the potential impact on the Trust, the Council would share the risk on a 50:50 basis. For clarity, the annual borrowing cost for the year ending 31st March 2022 was £2,468 (2021: £2963). If the venture failed the amount payable per annum by the Trust would be reduced by 50%. If a new tenant was found at that time but the rental stream achieved was lower, then the shortfall would be shared. At the balance sheet date the amount due to Hastings Borough Council was £299,339 (2021 - £182,620).

HASTINGS AND ST LEONARDS FORESHORE CHARITABLE TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1105649

Accounts

Charity registration number: 1105649

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

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Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustee	Hastings Borough Council
Other Officers	Councillor Andy Batsford, Committee Member (Appointed 10 July 2017) Councillor Sue Beaney, Committee Chair (Appointed 17 May 2017 - Retired 7th June 2020) Councillor Margi O'Callaghan, Committee Chair (Appointed 8th June 2020) Councillor Judy Rogers, Committee Member (Appointed 16 May 2018)
Charity Registration Number	1105649
Bankers	Lloyds Bank 17 Wellington Place Hastings TN31 1NX
Auditor	Manningtons 39 High Street Battle East Sussex TN33 0EE
Protector	Christopher May MA, FCA (Retired 19th March 2020) Froghole Oast House Crockham Hill Edenbridge Kent TN8 6TD
Protector	James W Cook FCA (Appointed 20th March 2020) The Cottage Rushlake Green Heathfield East Sussex TN21 9QH

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report

The Trustee presents the annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Structure Governance and Management

Overview

The governing documents of the Charity are a conveyance from the Crown to Hastings Corporation dated 8 September 1893 and Charity Commission Scheme ref. no, 981/1011 made on 13 January 2011 (the 2011 Scheme).

The 1893 Conveyance provides that the length of foreshore between Ecclesbourne Glen and Grosvenor Gardens shall be held for the common use, benefit and enjoyment of Her Majesty's subjects and the public generally forever. Later conveyances in 1925, 1933 and 1934 conveyed the remainder of the foreshore to the Hastings Corporation on the same Trusts.

The Hastings Borough Council Act 1988 varies the Trust to permit certain uses on delineated areas of land and for the Council to charge for that use, whether provided by the Council itself or by another on the Council's behalf.

The 2011 Scheme extended the objects of the Charity to include such charitable purposes within the Borough of Hastings as the Trustee thinks fit.

The 2011 Scheme had the effect of revoking the Charity Commission Scheme dated 22 March 2006 which appointed independent Trustees and Council nominated Trustees and appointed Hastings Borough Council as the Trustee for all purposes. This report is prepared by the Trustee as required under the 2011 Scheme.

Significant changes

Covid had a major impact towards the end of March 2020 with a ban on mass gatherings and events being introduced on 16th March 2020, and the first national lockdown on 23rd March 2020. Restrictions continued throughout the year under review and had a major impact on operations.

Trustee's Report (continued)

Governance

i) The Trustee

Hastings Borough Council, is a principal local authority established under the Local Government Act 1972 and, as such, has corporate status. As a local authority, the Trustee acts through decisions of elected members and delegations to committees, sub-committees and officers. The Local Government Act 2000 introduced executive decision making and the legislation provided for a split between decisions which are reserved to the Council, to the Executive or according to local choice. Where the function in question is not reserved to Council or a local choice function, the default provision in the legislation is that the function and decision-making relating to it are the preserve of the executive.

This represents the position regarding the Council's function or power to administer charities, that is to say that the administration of charities is an executive function and so only the Cabinet, a committee of Cabinet or officers acting under delegations from Cabinet are legally competent to make decisions relating to the Charity. This means that for the Foreshore Trust, the Council as Trustee, acts through the Charity Committee of Cabinet.

i) The Protector

When considering the request of the former independent Trustees to appoint the Council as Trustee, the Commission was concerned regarding the potential conflict of interest between the Council's position as charitable Trustee and as local authority and how to address this. Part of the solution was the requirement in the 2011 Scheme for the appointment of a Protector, who is required to be a qualified accountant.

The role of the Protector is essentially to act as whistle blower and watchdog against the Council acting in breach of trust and to guard against situations where a conflict of interest is not being managed properly. As a chartered accountant he is equipped to scrutinise the Council's charity accounts. The Protector is required to report any matters of serious concern to the Charity Commission and must prepare an annual report on his activities for inclusion in the Charity's Annual Report.

Trustee's Report (continued)

Consultation

The 2011 Scheme makes provision for consultation in two areas of the Charity's operation. Namely: -

i) Coastal Users' Group The Trustee is required to consult with and have regard to the recommendations of the Coastal Users' Group (CUG) in relation to certain matters, namely:-

- the standards or specifications for the maintenance of the charity's land.
- the Charity's policy relating to events and activities to be held on the Charity's land and any event/activity outside that policy.
- the Charity's policy relating to the exercise of any power under the Hastings Borough Council Act 1988 or otherwise to manage, let sell or otherwise dispose of the Charity's property, and
- the exercise of the powers under the previous bullet otherwise than in accordance with the agreed policy.

The CUG was an existing consultative group set up by the Council as local authority to consult with interested parties in relation to matters affecting the front line of the Council's area. It became the Coastal Advisory Group as required by the 2011 Scheme after adopting a formal constitution and rules for membership in early 2011. The minutes of its meetings, in so far as they relate to Foreshore Trust matters, are included in the reports submitted to each Charity Committee meeting. The CUG meets before each Charity Committee meeting (four times a year) to consider and comment on reports being submitted to the Charity Committee. The CUG is consulted each time the Foreshore Trust Business Plan is revised.

The inability of the CUG to meet during lockdowns has inhibited its ability to discuss issues in open forum. However, charity committee papers have continued to be circulated for comment, as have other Foreshore Trust matters

i) Grant Advisory Panel

The object to distribute surpluses, after meeting the costs of administering the Charity and managing its assets, including the repair and insurance of its land and buildings, through grants for charitable purposes in the Borough, are subject to consultation with the Grant Advisory Panel. The 2011 Scheme provides that consultation is to take place concerning the grant criteria, grant processes and grant determinations. The Grants Advisory Panel successfully concluded the process of prioritising the 2020/21 year's round of grant making, resulting in the award of grants totalling £63,000.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Trustee's Report (continued)

The following grants were awarded in 2020/21

	£	£
A Band of Brothers Hastings		5,400.00
Ore Community Land Trust		1,796.00
FT-SE205 Bohemia Arts and Music C.I.C		4,702.00
FT-SE209 Education Training Consortium Sussex		1,872.00
FT-SE211 Optivo Fresh Visions		2,196.00
FT-SE213 Hastings & Rother Mediation		4,000.00
FT-SE215 Hastings & St. Leonards Voluntary Lifeguard Club		3,916.00
FT-SE216 Hastings Advice and Representation Centre (HARC)		5,400.00
FT-SE228 National Literacy Trust - Hastings		3,975.00
FT-SE229 Parochial Church Council St Helens Ore		244.00
FT-SE232 Sussex Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus		435.00
FT-SE239 The Nautical Museums Trust (the Shipwreck Museum)		1,710.00
FT-SE241 Zoom Arts		1,517.00
FT-SE302 Hastings Furniture Service		4,680.00
FT-SE308 XTRAX		2,867.00
FT-SE318 Hastings Community Transport		5,400.00
FT-SE340 Bike Lab Hastings		3,420.00
FT-SE341 Association of Carers		844.00
FT-SE342 Culture Shift CIC		1,620.00
FT-SE346 AudioActive		5,266.00
FT-SE349 Creative Space Science CIC		4,140.00
Grants Paid out in 2020-21		**65,400.00**
FT826 Oasis Community Project – East Hastings	-398.20	
FT828 Stay Up Late	-310.00	
FT-E703 The Groundwork South Trust Ltd	-182.00	
FT-SE101 Actors of Dionysus (aod)	-149.00	
FT-SE113 Hastings Arts Forum Ltd	-229.89	
FT-SE115 Hastings Fishermens Protection Society	-476.00	
FT-SE121 The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Holy Trinity Hastings	-386.00	
FT-SE125 The Conservation Volunteers (TCV)	-300.00	
Reversal of 2019-20 accruals (Not Paid out in 2020-21)	**-2,431.09**	
		-2,431.09
Balance on FST Grants Paid out in 2020-21		**62,968.91**

Trustee's Report (continued)

Delegation to Officers

At its first meeting on 25 January 2011, the Charity Committee agreed a Scheme of Delegation to Officers. From the 1 April 2012 the Scheme of Delegations has required amending, replacing the Chief Executive with an appropriate Director and his/her nominee as a result of a senior management restructure. The new Scheme of Delegations follows the pattern of the Council's Scheme of Delegations to Officers, in that the appropriate Director or their duly authorised nominee is authorised within the plan and budget agreed by the Charity Committee to undertake the day to day operation and management of the Charity. The authority is general and subject to certain exceptions including the disposal of land, use of the Charity's land for events outside of the agreed policy, grants for charitable purposes and specification for and the award of contracts affecting the Charity, which are all subject to consultation and then the decision of the Charity Committee. The Scheme of Delegation emphasises that the Directors or their nominees acting under the delegations must be mindful that they are acting on behalf of the Charity and not the Council and ensure that at all times they act in the best interests of the Charity.

The officers authorised for most purposes affecting the Charity's day to day operation and management are:-

- Victoria Conheady, Assistant Director Regeneration and Culture.
- Peter Grace, Assistant Director Financial Services and Revenues (Chief Finance Officer)
- Amy Terry, Estates Manager
- Mary Kilner is the Monitoring Officer and the Chief Legal Officer, and is also the Authorised Signatory on behalf of the Charity

In case of actual or potential conflict of interest for officers, independent advisors are instructed on behalf of the Charity e.g. surveyors.

Training and Induction for the Trustee

Training is provided for members and officers covering training on the history of the Trust, the constitutional documentation of the Trust and how to put those into effect.

Training has been offered to all members of the Council to raise awareness and to keep them advised.

Risk Management

The charity maintains a risk register and formally reviews this on an annual basis when determining the reserves policy. Initially this identified the key financial risks facing the Trust, but continues to be developed to include the identification of all significant risks (it also includes the identification of relevant controls to mitigate and responsibilities).

Trustee's Report (continued)

Objectives

The 2011 Scheme states the objects of the Charity to be:-

(i) to hold and maintain the charity's land for the objects set out in the trusts of the Charity, namely for the common use, benefit and enjoyment of all Her Majesty's subjects and of the public for the time being forever; and

(ii) subject to (i) above, such charitable purposes within the area of the Borough of Hastings as the Trustee thinks fit.

The Scheme expressly provides that income and capital are first to be applied in meeting the proper costs of administering the Charity and of managing its assets including the repair and insurance of its land and buildings. After payment of these costs, the Trustee must apply the remaining income in furthering the objects of the Charity.

Achievements and Performance

This has been the tenth full financial year for the Council as Trustee of the Foreshore Trust. The Charity met four times during the year and the main business has been:

- The adoption of the Trust's new rolling five-year Business Plan;
- The ninth round of small grant awards (up to £5,000) to local charitable organisations;
- Agreement of the budget for 2020/21 and financial report.

Refurbishment of White Rock Water Feature

Following the refurbishment of the White Rock Baths in 2016 and the opening of the Source Park as a BMX and skateboard venue, the water feature above the building remained a key eyesore in this area of the promenade. The Council, as trustee was successful in securing funding from the fourth round of the national Coastal Communities Fund (CCF) to replace the redundant fountain with new feature for enjoyment on the Hastings seafront.

The new feature, titled 'Sea Mist', creates a new destination space at the promenade and complements existing adjacent assets. It uses high-quality long-lasting materials, specifically for the misters and paving which will be subject to coastal elements and regular water coverage from the mister jets. Substantial waterproofing to the fountain space/roof structure provided, thereby further mitigating against water ingress into The Source Park below. Programming feature for the misters to turn on/off, thereby minimising water usage and option to turn off overnight. The feature includes a good-sized mobility access plaza space – enhancing the objective of creating a destination and a social space.

Additional funding totalling £79,000 was obtained from the CCF programme to complete the refurbishment and restoration of the feature was completed in early April 2020.

Trustee's Report (continued)

Car Parks

The Foreshore Trust derives its income mainly from car parking and property leases/licences, the former income stream being quite variable. The area hardest hit by lockdown restrictions has been Car Parking Income for Pelham and Rock a Nore.

In the year 2020/2021 with lock down restrictions in place car park occupancy at times went as low as 5% with income severely reduced from April to June. Government restrictions eased during the period from July to October with schemes such as 'Eat out to Help Out' actually saw income increase on previous years for August, September and October but as restrictions returned income reduced for the remainder of the financial year.

Car Park Operating expenditure was also lower because of lockdown restrictions.

Grounds Maintenance

There are no significant changes to the foreshore grounds maintenance contract. For the Trust, the annual cost of seafront grounds maintenance has reduced. The ground maintenance contract has been operated by Idverde since 2016.

The Stade

Stade Hall is now operated by the East Sussex College Group – their plans for the building includes commercial lettings and activities, adult education for community partners project and advanced learners project, offering 'level 3' bespoke fish mongering, butchery and patisserie courses.

The college had also agreed to a significant community element working with Hastings Voluntary Action to promote volunteering opportunities for long term unemployed, working with Billingsgate seafood training school and the Foreshore Trust to develop a programme with school involvement to promote sea food cooking; linking with community partners; and offering employability skills, and apprenticeship qualifications, at Stade Hall.

Please note that not all the above activities have commenced as the new arrangements are still in the early phase of the operating agreement, and have obviously been severely impacted by Covid.

Stade open space

Due to the COVID 19 lockdown activities during 20/21 were minimal.

Maintenance and repair work

During the year resurfacing works were carried out on footpaths but overall there was less projects & repairs carried out in the year due to lockdown restrictions.

Promenade and Beach

Hastings Fisheries Local Action Group Programme 2017/19

The FLAG programme came to an end in March 2020.

The three-year programme engaged with 14 different organisations to successfully deliver 18 projects across 3 themes of (i) creating a sustainable fleet and supply chain, (ii) the environment and (iii) the place. The majority of targets for each project were achieved and overall there was a 95% spend on allocated budget.

This achievement was publicly recognised at the end of programme event, where three very diverse projects showcased their successes and the overall impact to the industry and local community was celebrated. The *Supporting Sustainable Sepia Stocks* project studied cuttlefish eggs and produced reports that include recommendations to increase sustainability of egg survival post-fishing. The *Fit to Fish* project engaged the local community and raised awareness of health and wellbeing. The *Aspiring Chefs' Academy* project educated and trained 35 young people in the fishing industry. The *Hastings Fish Brand* project has supported over 40 local businesses in establishing a fish brand that will continue beyond the project. The *Icemaker* project has ensured that ice is available for fishermen, suppliers and wholesalers in Hastings Fish Market maintaining the quality and freshness of the local catch.

Although the future of FLAG funding is currently unknown, the Hastings FLAG Board agreed to continue to meet following the end of the programme, to maintain partnership working and to stay aware of the ongoing issues in the industry.

Lifeguard Service

As a result of the success of the pilot, at the charity committee meeting on 11th December 2017 the committee agreed unanimously to enter into a three-year contract with the RNLI to provide the Hastings lifeguard service. A number of 'tweaks' were made to the service following the pilot, including earlier starts at all three sites - Pelham, Pier, and Marina. 2020 was the third full year of the three-year contract, and on 29th March 2021 the charity committee agreed to enter into a further three year contract with the RNLI for the RNLI to provide lifeguarding services at Hastings, for the 2021 -2023 (inclusive) seasons.

In 2020, in a season much curtailed by Covid, and in which only two of the three regular lifeguard stations were staffed, 4 lives were saved, 7 people were rescued, 6 assisted, major first aid rendered on 5 people, minor first aid on 17, and a total of 7432 face to face 'preventative actions were carried out.

Public Art Project Initiation

The Foreshore Trust Seafront Arts Programme was agreed and is being delivered by Sweet and Dandy Ltd. In its first stage, a series of workshops were held involving three Hastings secondary schools, East Sussex College Hastings and the Eggtooth youth project.

The workshops explored issues around sea and beach pollution by plastics and articulating them in artistic designs, artwork and sculptures. These sessions have been ongoing since November 19 and will continue until July 2020 (subject to COVID restrictions). The workshops are led by artists Peter Quinnell, Leigh Dyer and Sarah Evans and are currently engaging the participants in ways to raise public awareness of the biggest major plastic pollutant, cigarette butts, through public art in the form of a public art piece and related campaigns along the seafront, to be delivered during 2021 (again subject to lifting of COVID 19 restrictions).

Cycle and deck chair hire concession

The Foreshore Trust subsidised Active Hastings to deliver cycle and deck chair hire for two years, in 2019 and 2020, with the ambition to create a less subsidised (or a surplus making) provision. Summer 2020 was the last year of this agreement. Due to Covid restrictions, the provision was delivered in 2020, but at a significantly reduced offer. Bookings moved to online group reservations only. Income and spend were minimal due to the limited service. A total of only 35 staffing hours was provided with only 8 bikes hired.

Pre-Covid annual staffing costs were circa £7.8k with income of £2.8k. Deck chair hire proved to be even less viable than cycle hire.

The trust also agreed use of the electric bikes from the Seaside Cycle Hire for a short-term trial encouraging HBC staff to switch from car to electric bike for work related travel. This trial relied on additional use of the bikes when the Cycle Hut was closed or off-peak times. However, the pandemic interrupted the trial and only one member of staff used a bike regularly.

Street and beach cleansing

Two FLAG funded projects to address issues of marine litter were awarded during the year. 1 HBC led project ‘Save our seas’ ran through the summer – including seafront posters and banners, social media and the installation of new beach litter bins on the promenade and a pilot of branded beach-based bins.

The second community led – behavioural change and marketing campaign to reduce the amount of litter discarded thoughtlessly. This project was led by the Marine Conservation Society which worked with local schools to teach children about marine litter, it’s impact and how to take care of the marine environment.

Quality Coast Award/Blue Flag status

The council continued to achieve the Seaside Award for Pelham beach, and the combined Blue Flag and Seaside Award for Marina beach.

Trustee's Report (continued)

Hastings Harbour Arm

Works to the Hastings Harbour Arm was completed in February 2019. The Harbour Arm is a very important structure on the seafront as it retains beach material that protects the fishing fleet and the town from flooding. The works involved encasing the existing Hastings Harbour Arm in armour rock to help protect it from further deterioration.

Public Benefit

The objects of the Charity clearly state that the Foreshore is to be held for the benefit of Her Majesty's subjects and the public generally forever. Where the land is beach and beach alone, the objects are achieved by ensuring that the public have free and safe access to the Foreshore. However, maintaining land in proper condition has a cost and the Charity requires an income to meet its expenditure. The Hastings Borough Council Act 1988 varied the original Trusts' to permit certain uses on defined areas of the Trust's land. For example, paid parking was permissible at Rock–a-Nore Car Park and at Pelham Car Park and leisure facilities were permitted in the Stade area. These variations to the Trust powers enabled the generation of income to meet the costs of maintaining the Foreshore. The uses permitted under the Act, however, are seen as complementary to the Trust objects and the Trustee will exercise its powers under the Act to satisfy the requirement for the benefit of the public.

So far as is possible and subject to the uses permitted under the Act, the aim of the Trustees is that the Foreshore should be accessible by all members of the public who wish to visit it. At the same time, part of the Foreshore is a working beach and so health and safety considerations apply.

The 2011 Scheme included a new object to distribute surpluses as grants for charitable purposes within the Borough of Hastings. There have been seven rounds of small grants the first of which took place in 2011/12. Grants for events on Foreshore Land commenced in 2013/14 and have been repeated annually.

The Trustee has indicated a willingness to undertake further capital works to assets if financially sustainable, which conform to the Trust's objects.

There will be different views on how the public benefit is best achieved and the Charity Committee will continue to consult with the Coastal Users' Group on proposals for the future of the Foreshore and specifications and standards of maintenance and with the Grant Advisory Panel on the grant criteria and grants processes.

In addition, whilst the Council undertook the role as Trustee from January 2011, it has been operating and managing the Foreshore and its assets without interruption over many years. The operations include:

- keeping the Charity's land safe and clean;
- operating the Charity's car parks;
- managing its tenanted premises;
- arranging and facilitating events on the Foreshore;
- undertaking routine maintenance and repair.

Trustee's Report (continued)

Financial Review

The annual accounts are attached to this report and, once again, have received an unqualified audit opinion by external auditors. The Trust's main sources of income remain that of car parking fees and charges and rental income from property. The expenditure that the Trust incurs is as a result of providing the car parks e.g. operating costs, and the costs of maintaining and developing the foreshore.

Investments – The Trust retains significant cash balances. At 31 March 2021 these were invested as follows:-

	2020/21	2019/20
	£	£
CCLA Investment Management	1,728,167	1,726,117
Lloyds Bank (the Trust's Bank Account)	604	604

Trustee's Report (continued)

The following table compares the major elements of the budget to the actual income and expenditure for the financial year:-

Statement of Financial Activities

	Budget Estimate	Revised Budget	Actual Outturn
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Incoming Resources			
Investment Income	5	5	9
Incoming resources from Charitable activities	1176	1176	745
Rental income	237	237	224
Total incoming resources	1,418	1,418	978
Resources Expended			
Loan repayments	33	33	33
Charitable Activities* (excluding Capital charges)	946	946	829
Maintenance projects and cyclical repairs	133	133	63
Governance costs	152	152	123
Total resources expended	1,264	1,264	1,048
Total Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	154	154	(70)
Small Grants	90	90	63
Projects**	112	112	17
Surplus/(Deficit)	(48)	(48)	(150)

The year ended with a deficit of £150k after grants and reserve funded items.

Future Expenditure Plans 2021/22 and Beyond

In line with the approved Business plan, expenditure on major Projects and Other Expenditure will continue in 2021/22 and will result in an overall surplus for the year, budgeted at £61,000.

Future business plan projects commencing in 2021/22 include repairs and renewals on the beachfront, surfacing works to footpaths and playground areas, Car Park Maintenance, Public Convenience maintenance, White Rock Promenade timber kiosk decking and installation of car park barrier replacements.

The 2021/22 budget identified spend on projects and other expenditure amounting to some £189,500. £138,500 of this spend is on cyclical repairs and maintenance and £51,000 is programmed spend, financed from Reserves. The areas of spend are as follows:-

- £20,000 – White Rock Promenade
- £25,000 – Contingency funding
- £ 6,000 – Landscaping

Trustee's Report (continued)

The current business plan, includes the following for Projects and Other Expenditure for the years 2021/22 to 2025/26 is shown below:-

Business Plan

Foreshore Trust Spending Plan PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION OF WORK	2021-2022 Estimate	2022-2023 Estimate	2023-2024 Estimate	2024-2025 Estimate	2025-2026 Estimate	Total Estimate 2021- 2026
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Beach - Other	Other repairs and renewals beachfront area	8	12	0	0	0	20
Car Parks - Pelham	Maintenance	4	6	0	0	0	10
Car Parks Rock a Nore	Maintenance	4	6	0	0	0	10
Chalets - White Rock & Marina	Maintenance	2	2	0	0	0	4
Cycle Hire Hut	Main walls - external redecoration	1	0	1	0	0	2
Cycle Hire Hut	Roofs - routine re-felting	0	0	1	0	0	1
Pelham Place Car Park	Tarmac surfacing - routine minor maintenance	0	2	0	2	0	4
Pelham Place Car Park	Clean out car park drainage gullies and channels	1	0	1	0	1	3
Pelham Place Car Park	Main access routes and disabled parking space hatching road markings - re-application	0	0	0	0	3	3
Pelham Place Car Park	Parking bay road markings - re-application	0	0	0	0	2	2
Pelham Place Car Park	Traffic speed humps - repair / replacement	0	0	5	4	0	9
Pelham Place Car Park	Vehicle height barrier at entrance	3	3	3	3	3	15
Pelham Place Car Park	Car park lighting columns - maintain LED lamps	1	1	1	1	1	3
Pelham Place Car Park	Car park information and direction signage	0	0	0	1	0	1
Pelham Place Public Conveniences	Main walls - external redecorations	0	0	0	3	0	3
Pelham Place Public Conveniences	Interior - internal redecorations	0	0	0	1	0	1
Pelham Playa (netted MUGA)	Replacement of roof netting system	0	0	10	0	0	10
Pelham Playa (netted MUGA)	Replacement of playing surface complete	0	0	30	0	0	30
Pelham Playground	Repair of playproprietory play equipment	3	3	3	3	3	15
Play Areas and Exercise Equipment	Maintenance of equipment	15	15	0	0	0	30
PlayHire Huts (Former Life Guards' Huts)	Main walls - external redecoration	0	1	0	0	1	2
PlayHire Huts (Former Life Guards' Huts)	Roofs - routine re-felting	0	0	2	0	0	2
Promenade Adult Exercise Equipment	Replacement / repair of equipment	2	0	2	0	2	6
Promenade Finger Posts	Redecoration and repair	1	0	1	0	1	2
Public Conveniences	Maintenance	6	6	0	0	0	12
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Hard Surfaced	Clean out car park drainage gullies and channels	0	1	0	1	0	2
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Hard Surfaced	Heritage surfaced section - patch repair of worn areas mostly to main access route.	25	0	0	0	0	25
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Hard Surfaced	Main access route and disabled parking space hatching road markings - re-application	0	0	0	0	2	2
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Hard Surfaced	Parking bay road markings to east end - re-application	0	0	0	0	1	1
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Hard Surfaced	Repair and replacement of metal bollards	0	0	2	0	0	2
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Hard Surfaced	Vehicle height barrier at car park entrance	3	3	3	3	3	15
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Hard Surfaced	Car park lighting columns - maintain LED lamps	1	1	1	1	1	3
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Hard Surfaced	Car park information and direction signage	0	0	0	1	0	1
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Loose Surface	Scarify and fill pot holes in loose surface finish	5	5	5	5	5	25
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Loose Surface	Replacement of damaged timber bollards	1	0	1	0	1	3

Trustee's Report (continued)

Foreshore Trust Spending Plan		2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	Total
PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION OF WORK	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate 2021- 2026
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Loose Surface	Repair timber kerb baulks to south boundary	0	0	0	2	0	2
Rock-a-Nore Car Park - Loose Surface	Replace timber kerb baulks to south boundary	0	30	0	0	0	30
Stade and Stade Kitchen	Maintenance	3	3	0	0	0	6
Stade Barriers	Annual maintenance	2	2	0	0	0	4
Stade Hall	Interior spaces - internal redecoration	0	20	0	0	0	20
Stade Hall	Main hall & kitchen - renewal of floor coverings	0	10	0	0	0	10
Stade Open Space	Drainage gulley clearance	1	1	1	1	1	3
Stade Open Space	Bench redecoration and remove shingle build up	0	3	0	0	3	6
Stade Open Space	Automatic bollard and barrier replacement	0	0	0	10	0	10
Stade Public Conveniences	Interior spaces - internal redecoration	6	0	0	0	0	6
Water Play *	Maintenance & operation	12	0	0	0	0	12
White Rock Baths	External redecoration/ Building maintenance	10	10	0	0	0	20
White Rock Baths - Lower Basement	Additional pump hire if above adopted.	8	8	8	8	8	40
White Rock Baths - Lower Basement	Sewage tank and pump set - maintenance	1	1	1	1	1	3
White Rock Baths - Lower Basement	Sewage tank pump set & controls - replacement	4	0	0	0	0	4
White Rock Baths - Main and Small Hall Level	Further protection of interior spaces from water ingress with use of plastic sheeting at high level and internal guttering where new ingress occurs.	5	0	5	0	5	15
White Rock Baths - Promenade Level	Main central entrance superstructure and lightwell upper and lower walls - external redecorations (Inc. White Rock Community Hub frontage)	0	15	0	0	15	30
White Rock Beach Chalets	Timber walls - external redecoration	0	5	0	0	5	10
White Rock Promenade - Timber Kiosk Decking	Timber decking and ramps around kiosk -minor repairs	1	0	1	0	1	2
White Rock Promenade (FST owned area only)	Timber seating, benches, waste bins, & planters - repairs and maintenance	1	1	1	0	0	2
Winch Road	Maintenance & lighting	2	2	0	0	0	4
Total of Cyclical Repairs and Redecorations		**139**	**176**	**86**	**49**	**66**	**515**
Projects (main programme)							
White Rock Promenade (FST owned area only)	Rationalisation of timber seating, benches and waste bins *	20	0	0	0	0	20
Access Audit	Implement prioritised actions	6	0	0	0	0	6
Contingency	Project Work Contingency	25	25	0	0	0	50
Total Projects - Main Programme		**51**	**25**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**76**

TOTAL PROGRAMME		**190**	**201**	**86**	**49**	**66**	**591**

Trustee's Report (continued)

Cost of Professional Advice

Professional advisor fees (including Protector's fees):

£16,657 (2019/20 £19,489).

Auditors/Accountants - £ 4,400 (2019/20 £3,500).

Trustee Expenses and Emoluments

There were no Trustee expenses charged to the Trust in 2020/21 (2019/20 nil).

A special responsibility allowance of £6,507 (2019/20 £6,642) was paid to the Chair of the Charity Committee and this is shown as Governance costs in the accounts.

Reserves Policy

The policy is reviewed periodically to take account of changes in the future plans of the Trust and perceived risks. The last review was 24 September 2018 and there have been no significant changes since this date which require a change to the policy. Reserves are maintained for a variety of reasons and the main points of the Policy are reproduced below.

a) £100,000 is to be retained for an unforeseen emergency or other unexpected need. This amount is arrived at after considering risks and how much might be needed for such contingencies; this involves judgment of events that may occur and their likelihood.

b) Expenditure budget - a small contingency fund to meet unforeseen operational costs. The expenditure budget is some £1,263,600. It is suggested that a contingency (say £100,000) be retained for unexpected and unforeseen operational expenditure.

c) Uncertainty over future income. Most well run organisations retain reserves equivalent to a number of weeks or months of equivalent income to allow time to develop new sources of income or to cut-back on related expenditure. Potential significant loss of income could result from a downturn in economic activity or an increase in fuel costs resulting in fewer tourists, a major disaster in the area, bad weather, pollution incident, or loss of reputation e.g. bathing water deterioration, etc. It is recommended that the equivalent of 6 months income be retained to cater for this risk which would amount to around £700,000.

d) Planned spending commitments which cannot be met from future income would imply a need for a specific sum to be set aside, often this amount will be included within designations in the accounts. Given the predicted surplus for each year there is scope to include some of the recurring planned expenditure within the annual budget. There are higher cost initiatives e.g. resurfacing of car parks, roadways etc., that will necessitate identification and retention of significant sums within the accounts.

e) Cash Flow – organisations require a working balance to cover 'troughs' in the cash budget. Based on the financial year the cash flow is expected to be positive throughout the year i.e. income generated should exceed expenditure. Where significant one off expenditure is incurred e.g. resurfacing, use of reserves would be used to cover any shortfalls. As such no sum is set aside for this specific purpose – especially given the sums detailed above (a to d).

f) In summary the Reserves to be retained amount to :-

Trustee's Report (continued)

Ref.	Risk Area/ Designated Funds	Amount (£)
a)	Unforeseen emergency/event	100,000
b)	Unforeseen operational costs/contingency	100,000
c)	Uncertainty on Income streams	700,000
	Total	**900,000**

Plus Planned Spending Commitments e.g. repairs and other initiatives identified within the business plan.

The total funds of the Trust, of which the above form a part, amount to £2,630,833 (2019/20 £2,630,833). The financing of the main programme is dependent upon achieving annual surpluses on the trusts main activities, given the level of Reserves being retained.

Plans for the Future

The Charity Committee looks to review its Business Plan on a regular basis to take account of known variations in resources and new opportunities and commitments. Subject to the Scheme's predetermination that meeting the cost of the administration and the repair and maintenance of its existing assets is the first priority; this will involve consideration of proposals for enhancing income generation and/or reducing operating expenditure as well as providing better facilities and attractions for the public benefit.

Due to the Covid pandemic and uncertainty regarding income during the years 20/21 and 21/22 the cyclical review of the business plan was agreed to be postponed, whilst the market conditions and the economy is uncertain. This decision is reviewed quarterly by lead officers, committee members and trustee while the pandemic continues.

Accountants, Auditors and Bankers

The Trust has been grateful for the excellent work of Manningtons (Auditors) for their work on closedown of the Accounts.

The Trust's monies are managed by the Council. The bankers are Lloyds Bank, which is the same as the Council with separate bank accounts. The Council's comprehensive Treasury Management and Investment Policy requirements equally apply when dealing with Trust monies.

Concluding Remarks

The Trust continues to concentrate efforts on ensuring a secure and viable future for the Trust, especially in terms of maintaining and improving its assets, managing its available resources for the long term benefit of the community, and also in the distribution of grants to the benefit of the Community - as resources permit.

Trustee's Report (continued)

Statement of Responsibilities

The trustee is responsible for preparing the trustee's report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities requires the trustee to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustee is 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustee is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustee is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Disclosure of information to auditor

The trustee has taken steps that it ought to have taken as a member in order to make itself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information. The trustee confirms that there is no relevant information that is known of and of which they know the auditor is unaware.

The annual report was approved by the trustee of the charity on ..... and signed on its behalf by:

.....

Councillor John Cannan

Chair of Charity Committee

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Protector's Report

This is my first full Annual Report as Protector of The Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust ("Foreshore Trust") since my appointment on 20th March 2020.

The rules of the Foreshore Trust call for the appointment of a Protector to safeguard the proper management of this charitable trust and, in particular, the resolution of any conflicts of interest that may arise from time to time between Hastings Borough Council ("HBC") acting as Trustee of this charity and HBC acting in its capacity as local authority. To this end, the rules provide that the general duty of the Protector is "to ensure the integrity of the administration of the charity", in other words to act as a watchdog over the activities of HBC's Charity Committee in managing the affairs of the Foreshore Trust.

(1) I have attended all meetings of the Charity Committee.

(2) Under the constitution of the Foreshore Trust the Trustee must consult two advisory bodies: (1) a nominated consultative and advisory group (currently the Coastal Users' Group - "CUG") in relation to major foreshore management issues, and (2) the Grants Advisory Panel ("GAP") which deals with the detailed process of recommending grants to be made by the Trustee under powers given in the Scheme. The Protector is entitled to attend the meetings of these groups and I have attended all meetings of the CUG and also those of the Charity Planning Committee which discusses the recommendations of the GAP.

(3) The Foreshore Trust has decided to extend its charitable activities significantly in the next few years following the decision of HBC (in its capacity as local authority) to cease as from April 2021 its financial support for the Community Partnership Fund (previously administered by HBC officers), much of whose activities were in practice directed towards charitable objectives. During the year to 31st March 2021 contributions were made under the Community Partnership Fund amounting to £xxxx which are referred to in the accompanying financial statements.The extension of the Trust's charitable activities will result in the establishment of a "Large Grant Programme" with charitable objectives similar in many respects to those of the Community Partnership Fund. The new programme will amount to some £160,000 in 2021-22, and £180,000 in the two subsequent years. Members of the Charity Committee and senior HBC officers have been at pains to ensure that:

(a) The activities of the Large Grant Programme will be genuinely charitable in nature;

(b) Grant recommendations to the members of the Charity Committee will be made by the GAP, not by the HBC officers previously responsible for making Community Partnership Fund recommendations, though they will be available in an advisory capacity to the GAP;

(c) Procedures will be introduced to ensure that all eligible applications will be placed before the GAP, and any applications considered ineligible by HBC staff members will be reported to and considered by the GAP;

(d) Potential conflict of interest issues will be properly addressed and resolved - these might relate to Charity Committee or GAP members with personal involvement with particular charities.

Following this development, the Charity Commission was requested for a minor amendment to the 2011 Scheme to allow for the appointment of two extra members of the GAP to cope with the extra work load, and this has now been granted and implemented.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Protector's Report (continued)

(4) During the period to which this report relates, I have been satisfied as Protector that the Trustee (HBC), acting through its Charity Committee, has satisfactorily ensured the integrity of the administration of the affairs of the Foreshore Trust, as required by the current Scheme of constitution.

James W Cook FCA
Protector
Date: .....

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2021, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement, 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 United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its 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 Charities Act 2011.

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 responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity 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 trustee 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 charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the original financial statements were authorised for issue.

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

Other information

The trustee is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. 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.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust (continued)

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustee's Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Report) Regulations 2008 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 financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustee remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustee

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustee Responsibilities [set out on page], the trustee is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustee 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 trustee is responsible for assessing the charity'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 trustee either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor 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.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust (continued)

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 extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

The legal and regulatory framework applicable to the entity was considered as part of the audit planning, a risk assessment was completed and no areas of concern were highlighted.

Enquiries have been made of management and those charged with governance of the Charity to obtain an understanding of the entity's policies and procedures. A review of Board minutes has taken place, with no cases of actual or suspected fraud highlighted.

The audit team remained vigilant for potential fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the whole audit process.

The susceptibility of the entity's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur was built in to the audit planned approach using a range of techniques.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: 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 charity trustee, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the trustee those matters we are required to state to trustee in an auditors' 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 charity and its trustee as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

.....
(Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Manningtons, Statutory Auditor

39 High Street
Battle
East Sussex
TN33 0EE

Date:.....

Manningtons is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2021 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Donations and legacies		95,880	95,880
Charitable activities	3	903,265	903,265
Investment income	4	2,050	2,050
Total Income		1,001,195	1,001,195
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	5	(1,119,703)	(1,119,703)
Governance costs	6	(79,995)	(79,995)
Total Expenditure		(1,199,698)	(1,199,698)
Net movement in funds		(198,503)	(198,503)
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		2,891,398	2,891,398
Total funds carried forward	16	2,692,895	2,692,895

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2020 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Charitable activities	3	1,347,537	1,347,537
Investment income	4	9,360	9,360
Total Income		1,356,897	1,356,897
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	5	(1,186,223)	(1,186,223)
Governance costs	6	(90,021)	(90,021)
Total Expenditure		(1,276,244)	(1,276,244)
Net movement in funds		80,653	80,653
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		2,810,745	2,810,745
Total funds carried forward	16	2,891,398	2,891,398

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2020 is shown in note 16.

The notes on pages 28 to 39 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

(Registration number: 1105649)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	1,159,442	1,232,933
Current assets			
Debtors	12	-	150,404
Cash at bank and in hand	13	1,728,771	1,726,721
		1,728,771	1,877,125
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	(69,337)	(62,464)
Net current assets		1,659,434	1,814,661
Total assets less current liabilities		2,818,876	3,047,594
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	15	(125,981)	(156,196)
Net assets		2,692,895	2,891,398
Funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		2,692,895	2,891,398
Total funds	16	2,692,895	2,891,398

The financial statements on pages 25 to 39 were approved by the trustee, and authorised for issue on ..... and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Councillor Margi O'Callaghan
Chair of Charity Committee

The notes on pages 28 to 39 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash (expenditure)/income		(198,503)	80,653
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Depreciation		73,491	78,604
Investment income	4	(2,050)	(9,360)
		(127,062)	149,897
Working capital adjustments			
Decrease in debtors	12	150,404	165,989
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	14	33,002	(486)
(Decrease)/increase in deferred income	15	(26,624)	26,624
Net cash flows from operating activities		29,720	342,024
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest receivable and similar income	4	2,050	9,360
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayment of loans and borrowings	14	(29,720)	(29,231)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		2,050	322,153
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		1,726,721	1,404,568
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		1,728,771	1,726,721

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The notes on pages 28 to 39 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

Going concern

The trustee considers that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Judgements

As outlined in Note 14, Hastings Borough Council acts as the sole trustee for the Hastings and St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust. The scheme is so constituted as to prevent the Council from obtaining any benefit from the Trust's activities and no group accounts are produced. Further details of the transactions with the Council are given in Note 14.

The Statement of Accounts contains estimated figures that are based on assumptions made by the Trust about the future or that are otherwise uncertain. Estimates are made taking into account historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors. However, because balances cannot be determined with certainty, actual results could be materially different from the assumptions and estimates.

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives taking into account residual values, where appropriate. The actual lives of the assets and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. In re-assessing asset lives, factors such as the effect of the elements, maintenance programmes and past experience are taken into account. The carrying amount is £1,159,442 (2020 -£1,232,933).

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Deferred income

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. 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 which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Investment income

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

Charitable activities

Income from charitable activities includes income recognised as earned (as the related goods or services are provided) under contract.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Grant expenditure

Grants payable are payments made to third parties in the furtherance of the charitable objectives. Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SoFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specific service or output.

Grants payable without performance conditions are only recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made and there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the charity.

Grant provisions

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

Governance costs

Governance costs include costs of the preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and the cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Government grants

Government grants are recognised based on the accrual model and are measured at the fair value of the asset received or receivable. Grants are classified as relating either to revenue or to assets. Grants relating to revenue are recognised in income over the period in which the related costs are recognised. Grants relating to assets are recognised over the expected useful life of the asset. Where part of a grant relating to an asset is deferred, it is recognised as deferred income.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £500.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

The land comprising the foreshore of Hastings and St Leonards was sold to the Trust by the Crown in September 1893 for £400 and subsequent purchases between 1925 and 1934 for a further £630. No valuation of this land has ever been carried out and it is recorded at cost. Land valued at £95,000 was acquired in 2010 as part of a land swap with Hastings Borough Council. Additional expenditure of £119,490 in 2013 represents the cost of creating additional car parking spaces within the Pelham Place car park. This is being depreciated over 15 years, being the estimated time before re-surfacing becomes necessary. The trustee is of the opinion that the open market value is materially in excess of the carrying value of the land.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Land	not depreciated
Pelham Place car park additional spaces	over 15 years straight line
White Rock Baths	over 50 years straight line
Winch Road Upgrade	over 15 years straight line
Plant and equipment	over 5 and 15 years straight line

Research and development

Research and development expenditure is written off as incurred.

Debtors

Are amounts due from Hastings Borough Council for settlement of expenditure incurred by the Trust that is to be repaid and is recognised initially at the transaction price. A provision for the impairment of it will be established when there is objective evidence that the Trust will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the charity has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustee discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside for specific purposes at the discretion of the trustees.

Staff and pension schemes

The charity has no employees but is charged the relevant portion of those undertaking work in pursuance of the charity's objectives. These are employed by Hastings Borough Council and have the choice of being in the relevant defined benefit local government pension scheme.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2021 £
Grants, including capital grants;		
European Fisheries Fund	95,880	95,880
	95,880	95,880

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Car Parking	650,571	650,571	1,102,313
Foreshore management	251,987	251,987	245,018
Street cleansing	-	-	44
Public convieiences	707	707	162
	903,265	903,265	1,347,537

4 Investment income

	Unrestricted General £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	2,050	2,050	9,360
	2,050	2,050	9,360

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Car Parking	361,044	361,044	370,793
Foreshore management	498,445	498,445	512,912
Street cleansing	11,150	11,150	40,416
Public convieiences	174,401	174,401	173,180
White Rock Baths	3,225	3,225	9,642
Small end events grants	62,969	62,969	79,280
	8,469	8,469	-
	1,119,703	1,119,703	1,186,223

6 Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Wages and salaries	6,507	6,507	6,642
Audit of the financial statements	3,590	3,590	2,700
Accountancy services	2,460	2,460	1,900
Legal fees	8,876	8,876	10,837
HBC management charges	58,230	58,230	58,230
Other governance costs	332	332	9,712
	79,995	79,995	90,021

7 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net (outgoing)/incoming resources for the year include:

	2021 £	2020 £
Audit fees	2,580	2,700
Depreciation of fixed assets	73,491	78,604

8 Trustee remuneration and expenses

Payments to the Trustee related entirely to recharges of costs incurred by HBC on behalf of the charity. These included a payment by HBC to the Chair of the Charity Committee of HBC by way of a responsibility allowance from the Council of £6,507 (2020 - £6,642), included in Governance costs.

9 Staff costs

The Trust does not directly employ any staff. As such no employee received emoluments of more that £60,000 during the year

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £9,024 (2020 - £14,728).

10 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from Corporation Tax.

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Plant and equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2020	1,144,091	573,843	1,717,934
At 31 March 2021	1,144,091	573,843	1,717,934
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2020	184,099	300,902	485,001
Charge for the year	40,514	32,977	73,491
At 31 March 2021	224,613	333,879	558,492
Net book value			
At 31 March 2021	919,478	239,964	1,159,442
At 31 March 2020	959,992	272,941	1,232,933

12 Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Other amounts owed by Hastings Borough Council	-	150,404

13 Cash and cash equivalents

	2021	2020
	£	£
Cash at bank	1,728,771	1,726,721

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Other creditors	26,424	-
Loans from Hastings Borough Council	30,215	29,720
Accruals	12,699	6,121
Deferred income	-	26,624
	69,338	62,465

15 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Loans from Hastings Borough Council	125,981	156,196

The amount is the long term portion of the £300,000 annuity loan. The loan is at 1.66%, and has biannual payments.

For the £300,000 annuity loan, to limit the potential impact on the Trust, the Council shared the risk on a 50:50 basis. For clarity, the annual borrowing costs are £32,643, if the venture failed the amount payable per annum by the Trust would be reduced by 50%. If a new tenant was found at that time but the rental stream achieved was lower, then the shortfall would be shared.

16 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
Unrestricted funds					
General					
Unappropriated reserve	-	1,001,195	(1,191,229)	190,034	-
Designated					
Contingency reserve	900,000	-	-	-	900,000
Main programme reserve	758,465	-	-	(116,543)	641,922
Fixed asset fund	1,232,933	-	-	(73,491)	1,159,442
	2,891,398	-	-	(190,034)	2,701,364
Total funds	2,891,398	1,001,195	(1,191,229)	-	2,701,364

	Balance at 1 April 2019 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2020 £
Unrestricted funds					
General					
Unappropriated reserve	-	1,356,897	(1,276,244)	(80,653)	-
Designated					
Contingency reserve	900,000	-	-	-	900,000
Main programme reserve	599,208	-	-	159,257	758,465
Fixed asset fund	1,311,537	-	-	(78,604)	1,232,933
	2,810,745	-	-	80,653	2,891,398
Total funds	2,810,745	1,356,897	(1,276,244)	-	2,891,398

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

The Main programme reserve is held to fund the Trust's business plan initiatives and significant items of repair and maintenance that cannot be financed in a single year.

The Fixed asset fund is created to recognise that an equivalent amount of reserves has already been used, and is not available for further use.

The Unappropriated reserve represents all monies for which a specific purpose remains to be determined.

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds Designated £	Total funds at 31 March 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,159,442	1,159,442
Current assets	1,728,771	1,728,771
Current liabilities	(69,337)	(69,337)
Creditors over 1 year	(125,981)	(125,981)
Total net assets	2,692,895	2,692,895

	Unrestricted funds Designated £	Total funds at 31 March 2020 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,232,933	1,232,933
Current assets	1,877,125	1,877,125
Current liabilities	(62,464)	(62,464)
Creditors over 1 year	(156,196)	(156,196)
Total net assets	2,891,398	2,891,398

18 Related party transactions

During the year the charity made the following related party transactions:

Hastings Borough Council
(Trustee)

The Foreshore Trust took a loan in 2016 from Hastings Borough Council to allow it to fund the conversion of White Rock Baths as a BMX centre and café.

The property belongs to the Foreshore Trust and the loan granted by Hastings Borough Council for £300,000 was for a ten year period. The Building has been leased to The Source for a period of ten years and the rental income generated will contribute to the repayment of the loan principal and interest.

The loan is repayable in biannual payments. The £300,000 annuity loan being at 1.66%, and the first payment being made on the 21st September 2016.

For the former, to limit the potential impact on the Trust, the Council would share the risk on a 50:50 basis. For clarity, the annual borrowing cost is £32,643 if the venture failed the amount payable per annum by the Trust would be reduced by 50%. If a new tenant was found at that time but the rental stream achieved was lower, then the shortfall would be shared. At the balance sheet date the amount due to Hastings Borough Council was £182,620 (2020 - £35,512).