

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07318732 (England and Wales)  
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1137917

**Report of the Trustees and**  
**Unaudited Financial Statements**  
**For The Year Ended 31 December 2023**  
**for**  
**Gloucestershire Orchard Trust**

Kingscott Dix Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
Goodridge Court  
Goodridge Avenue  
Gloucester  
Gloucestershire  
GL2 5EN

**Gloucestershire Orchard Trust**

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**For The Year Ended 31 December 2023**

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**Report of the Trustees**  
**For The Year Ended 31 December 2023**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Objectives and aims**

To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment by promoting biological diversity and to advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment.

**Significant activities**

During the year, the charity trustees prepared and agreed on a three-year plan based on the cornerstones of the Trust's approach to the conservation and celebration of Gloucestershire's orchards; Ownership, Partnership, Connections and Collections.

**Ownership**

The Trust continued to use its orchards at Longney on the banks of the River Severn to demonstrate good orchard practice by hosting workshops and other events such as the Hedgerow Hero project carried out in conjunction with CPRE Gloucestershire as part of The Big Help Out. However, maintenance and use of the orchard has become increasingly problematic due to the damaged state of the access track. The precise obligations of the Trust under its access licence were reviewed and the landlord's land agent has been contacted to agree the works required to bring the track back to a useful condition. These works will be carried out in 2024, using some of the financial reserves accumulated by the Trust, and the orchard should again become accessible for courses, harvesting and regular working parties.

Work by volunteers to clear Henley Bank orchard of scrub continued during the autumn and winter of 2023, with the first two rows of old perry pear trees now completely accessible. The existence of restricted funds for the orchard allowed works to be carried out to make the trees safe and to remove some non-orchard trees. The management group for Henley Bank orchard is generating a three-year plan during 2024 which will include aspects of orchard management, protection and enhancement of the environmental value and community engagement.

Rockness orchard continued to operate successfully as a community orchard, with regular events and activities well attended by the local community.

**Partnership and Connections**

During 2023 the Trust continued to run its Free Tree scheme in conjunction with Gloucestershire County Council, which made funding for orchard trees available under the Local Authority Tree Fund. By obtaining additional grant funding for guarding materials the Trust was able to support tree planting projects with local orchard owners by supplying and in many cases planting over four hundred fruit trees. The Trust has succeeded in creating strong links with local schools and charities and will continue to support their orchards as they establish over the coming years. The Trust was also successful in obtaining grants to run a series of courses relating to orchards, such as grafting, pruning and cider making workshops, utilising funding made available through Farming in Protected Landscapes.

**Collections**

The Trust continues to manage the Gloucestershire Apple Collection and the Gloucestershire Plum Collection at its orchard in Longney, also a valuable collection of other fruit varieties. The recruitment of a volunteer Curator to manage these collections will enhance our ability to continue with this work.

**Gloucestershire Orchard Trust (Registered number: 07318732)**

**Report of the Trustees**  
**For The Year Ended 31 December 2023**

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Financial position**

The Trust's financial position at the end of 2023 was healthy, in part due to loan repayments received during the year. The incoming Treasurer made the decision to write off the value of the investment in Orchard Guardians CIC and the stock of books during the year, on the grounds that neither of these assets looked likely to be realisable as cash. Although this impacted the net expenditure for the year, the cash movement was positive. The Trust is expecting significant outlay during 2024, particularly with respect to the track improvement works at Longney, but due to the careful financial custodianship of the previous Treasurer the Trust is well placed to meet this expenditure. The Trust benefitted from generous donations during the year and from higher interest rates, which have been accessed in respect of the restricted funds for Henley Bank orchard by placing monies on a one-year deposit with Charity Bank.

**Reserves policy**

The Trustees aim to maintain unrestricted reserves at a level sufficient to fund twelve months of unrestricted charitable expenditure. At the end of the year, unrestricted reserves were more than the level required to provide this cover. However, the Trustees also aim to maintain a sufficient reserve to be able to respond to unexpected opportunities, particularly in the event that a desirable orchard became available for acquisition, and are therefore satisfied that a relatively high level of reserves may be appropriate as long as the essential work of the Trust is being carried out effectively and at sufficient levels to meet the charitable aims.

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing document**

Constitution as a non-profit distributing body incorporated in England and Wales and limited by guarantee.

**Organisational structure**

On the 7th of May 2024, the Trust converted to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, subject to a new constitution submitted to and approved by the Charity Commission.

On 14th July 2023 Jim Chapman resigned as a Trustee after 13 years of service, including an extended period as Treasurer. The Trustees would like to extend their sincere thanks to Jim for his commitment and enthusiasm during this period and his ongoing support for and interest in the work of the Trust.

New Trustees are appointed as required by the existing Trustees, from those with an active interest in the aims of the Trust, with the ability to contribute to its governance and the willingness to contribute to its aims and objectives.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Company number**

07318732 (England and Wales)

**Registered Charity number**

1137917

**Registered office**

The Orchard Centre  
Blackwell's End  
Hartpury  
Gloucestershire  
GL19 3DB

**Trustees**

J A Bailey  
W M Brentnall  
H M Brent-Smith  
J R Chapman (resigned 14.7.23)  
D C P Kaspar  
C C Wedge  
A.M. Ellis  
D R Lindgren  
T S Andrews

**Gloucestershire Orchard Trust (Registered number: 07318732)**

**Report of the Trustees**  
**For The Year Ended 31 December 2023**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Company Secretary**

A.M. Ellis

**Independent Examiner**

Kingscott Dix Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
Goodridge Court  
Goodridge Avenue  
Gloucester  
Gloucestershire  
GL2 5EN

**Bankers**

Barclays Bank Plc  
12 Broad St  
Newent  
Gloucestershire

**EVENTS SINCE THE END OF THE YEAR**

Information relating to events since the end of the year is given in the notes to the financial statements.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 4 September 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

A.M. Ellis - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of  
Gloucestershire Orchard Trust**

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Gloucestershire Orchard Trust ('the Company')**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2023.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mark Spashett

Kingscott Dix Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
Goodridge Court  
Goodridge Avenue  
Gloucester  
Gloucestershire  
GL2 5EN

5 September 2024

**Gloucestershire Orchard Trust**

**Statement of Financial Activities  
For The Year Ended 31 December 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.12.23 Total funds £	31.12.22 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	68,753	-	68,753	105,630
Other trading activities	3	784	-	784	1,942
Investment income	4	624	547	1,171	28
<b>Total</b>		<u>70,161</u>	<u>547</u>	<u>70,708</u>	<u>107,600</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
Raising funds		12,984	-	12,984	(3,240)
<b>Charitable activities</b>	5				
General		2,188	-	2,188	3,308
Other		59,220	7,288	66,508	12,940
<b>Total</b>		<u>74,392</u>	<u>7,288</u>	<u>81,680</u>	<u>13,008</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments		<u>(25,897)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(25,897)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		<u>(30,128)</u>	<u>(6,741)</u>	<u>(36,869)</u>	<u>94,592</u>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
Total funds brought forward		103,055	131,293	234,348	139,756
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u><u>72,927</u></u>	<u><u>124,552</u></u>	<u><u>197,479</u></u>	<u><u>234,348</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**Gloucestershire Orchard Trust (Registered number: 07318732)**

**Balance Sheet  
31 December 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.12.23 Total funds £	31.12.22 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	9	15,575	45,165	60,740	60,475
Investments	10	-	-	-	25,897
		<u>15,575</u>	<u>45,165</u>	<u>60,740</u>	<u>86,372</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Stocks	11	-	-	-	12,725
Debtors	12	-	-	-	10,000
Cash at bank		58,087	79,387	137,474	125,871
		<u>58,087</u>	<u>79,387</u>	<u>137,474</u>	<u>148,596</u>
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(735)	-	(735)	(620)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>57,352</u>	<u>79,387</u>	<u>136,739</u>	<u>147,976</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>72,927</u>	<u>124,552</u>	<u>197,479</u>	<u>234,348</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>72,927</u>	<u>124,552</u>	<u>197,479</u>	<u>234,348</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	14				
Unrestricted funds				72,927	103,055
Restricted funds:					
Orchard Acquisition Fund				43,967	43,967
Henley Bank Orchard				80,585	87,326
				<u>124,552</u>	<u>131,293</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>				<u>197,479</u>	<u>234,348</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The notes form part of these financial statements



**Gloucestershire Orchard Trust (Registered number: 07318732)**

**Balance Sheet - continued**  
**31 December 2023**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 4 September 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

A.M. Ellis - Trustee

## Gloucestershire Orchard Trust

### **Notes to the Financial Statements For The Year Ended 31 December 2023**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

##### **Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value.

##### **Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

##### **Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

##### **Tangible fixed assets**

The Fixed assets of the Trust are the orchard at Longney and the costs of securing the water supply. Therefore no depreciation is applied to these assets.

##### **Stocks**

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

##### **Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

##### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

#### **2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	31.12.23	31.12.22
	£	£
Membership	3,905	3,687
Donations and grants	64,335	101,249
Gift aid	513	694
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	68,753	105,630
	<hr/>	<hr/>

**Gloucestershire Orchard Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**For The Year Ended 31 December 2023**

**3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	31.12.23	31.12.22
	£	£
Fundraising events	784	1,942
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**4. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	31.12.23	31.12.22
	£	£
Deposit account interest	1,171	28
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

	Direct Costs £	Support costs £	Totals £
General			
	480	1,708	2,188
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

No trustee was remunerated for their efforts during the year to 31st December 2023 or the year ended 31st December 2022.

**Trustees' expenses**

The following expenses were paid at cost:

James Chapman £52

David Lindgren £542

Andy Ellis £76

**7. EX GRATIA PAYMENTS**

An honorarium of £480 (2022: £1,127) was paid by the trustees to Ann Smith, who resigned as Secretary to the Trust on 28th April 2023.

**8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	16,516	89,114	105,630
Other trading activities	1,942	-	1,942
Investment income	28	-	28
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Total</b>	18,486	89,114	107,600
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Raising funds	(3,240)	-	(3,240)

**Gloucestershire Orchard Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**For The Year Ended 31 December 2023**

**8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued**

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
General	3,308	-	3,308
Other	11,152	1,788	12,940
<b>Total</b>	<u>11,220</u>	<u>1,788</u>	<u>13,008</u>
 <b>NET INCOME</b>	 7,266	 87,326	 94,592
 <b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward	95,789	43,967	139,756
 <b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	 <u>103,055</u>	 <u>131,293</u>	 <u>234,348</u>

**9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Freehold property £
<b>COST</b>	
At 1 January 2023	60,474
Additions	266
At 31 December 2023	<u>60,740</u>
 <b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 31 December 2023	<u>60,740</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>60,474</u>

The assets represent the cost of acquisition of Henley Bank, the Orchard at Longney together with its water access and the legal cost of acquiring Rockness Orchard.

**Gloucestershire Orchard Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**For The Year Ended 31 December 2023**

**10. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

The company's investments at the balance sheet date in the share capital of companies include the following:

**Orchard Guardians CIC**

Registered office: UK

Nature of business: Orchard development

	%		
Class of share:	holding		
Ordinary shares of £1	33		
		31.12.23	31.12.22
		£	£
Aggregate capital and reserves		(12,403)	8,514
Loss for the year/period		(20,917)	(17,383)
		<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

The investment has been impaired down to nil value in the balance sheet, as the associate is insolvent and the Charity is unlikely to recover the cost of its investment.

**11. STOCKS**

	31.12.23	31.12.22
	£	£
Finished goods	-	12,725
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31.12.23	31.12.22
	£	£
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	10,000
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31.12.23	31.12.22
	£	£
Accrued expenses	735	620
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.1.23	Net movement	At
	£	in funds	31.12.23
		£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	103,055	(30,128)	72,927
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Orchard Acquisition Fund	43,967	-	43,967
Henley Bank Orchard	87,326	(6,741)	80,585
	<u>131,293</u>	<u>(6,741)</u>	<u>124,552</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>234,348</u>	<u>(36,869)</u>	<u>197,479</u>

**Gloucestershire Orchard Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**For The Year Ended 31 December 2023**

**14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	70,161	(74,392)	(25,897)	(30,128)
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Henley Bank Orchard	547	(7,288)	-	(6,741)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>70,708</u>	<u>(81,680)</u>	<u>(25,897)</u>	<u>(36,869)</u>

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.1.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.22 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	95,789	7,266	103,055
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Orchard Acquisition Fund	43,967	-	43,967
Henley Bank Orchard	-	87,326	87,326
	<u>43,967</u>	<u>87,326</u>	<u>131,293</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>139,756</u>	<u>94,592</u>	<u>234,348</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	18,486	(11,220)	7,266
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Henley Bank Orchard	89,114	(1,788)	87,326
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>107,600</u>	<u>(13,008)</u>	<u>94,592</u>

**Gloucestershire Orchard Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**For The Year Ended 31 December 2023**

**14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.23 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	95,789	(22,862)	72,927
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Orchard Acquisition Fund	43,967	-	43,967
Henley Bank Orchard	-	80,585	80,585
	<u>43,967</u>	<u>80,585</u>	<u>124,552</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>139,756</u>	<u>57,723</u>	<u>197,479</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	88,647	(85,612)	(25,897)	(22,862)
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Henley Bank Orchard	89,661	(9,076)	-	80,585
	<u>178,308</u>	<u>(94,688)</u>	<u>(25,897)</u>	<u>57,723</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>178,308</u>	<u>(94,688)</u>	<u>(25,897)</u>	<u>57,723</u>

The Orchard at Longley was acquired by donations and funding from the heritage lottery fund.

The Orchard at Henley Bank Brockworth was acquired with a fund earmarked for its restoration.

**15. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

The trust paid two businesses run by Trustees at the same rates as funds were also paid to third party providers.

These trustees were:

Tim Andrews of Orchard Revival, who received £2,100 for workshops run under the scheme funded by Farming in Protected Landscapes, as referenced in the report of Trustees.

David Lindgren of The Cotswold Fruit Company Limited, received £700 for workshops run under the scheme funded by Farming in Protected Landscapes, the company also received £3,360 for tree guarding services as referenced in the Report of the Trustees.

**Gloucestershire Orchard Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**For The Year Ended 31 December 2023**

**16. POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS**

On the 7th of May 2024, the Trust converted to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, subject to a new constitution submitted to and approved by the Charity Commission.