

Charity registration number 1141825 (England and Wales)

Company registration number 07338516

BIODYNAMIC AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

BIODYNAMIC AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr L M Aldington	
	Mr N Halfon	
	Mrs J Rosenbrock	
	Mr L G Smith	
	Mrs K Suskin	
	Mrs S Khaleque	(appointed 10 January 2025)
Charity number (England and Wales)	1141825	
Company number	07338516	
Registered office	Painswick Inn Project	
	Gloucester Street	
	Stroud	
	Gloucestershire	
	England	
	GL5 1QG	
Independent examiner	BK Plus Limited	
	6 Manor Park Business Centre	
	Mackenzie Way	
	Cheltenham	
	Gloucestershire	
	England	
	GL51 9TX	

BIODYNAMIC AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

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BIODYNAMIC AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "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)".

Objectives and activities

The charity's objectives, as defined in the Memorandum and Articles of Association, are to advance education for the public benefit in the biodynamic methods inspired by Dr. Rudolf Steiner for the betterment of farming, forestry and gardening in such ways as the trustees may determine.

In determining how to best pursue these objects, the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

The activities of the College include two biodynamic approaches to education:

- the Work Based Learning course, which involves practical experience and accompanying education on on farm placements; and
- biodynamic online courses, which provides distance learning to students both in the UK and abroad.

Vision and values

We envisage a world in which high-quality nutritious food for local communities is brought about by informed practitioners working with nature using a biodynamic approach. Biodynamics challenges much of current practice in agriculture, requiring a researching, principled and pragmatic approach. This demands of students that they examine their own understanding of nature, agriculture and culture. We are deeply aware of our responsibility towards our students to provide an effective educational process, which provides the conditions for development of knowledge, understanding and skills simultaneously. Therefore we value education in which students are supported in combining theoretical knowledge, philosophical understanding, social abilities and practical skills.

Purpose

The purpose of the Biodynamic Agricultural College is to facilitate the training and development of biodynamic practitioners in the UK and across the world.

Achievements and performance

Charitable activities

During the period in question the Work Based Learning (WBL) attained a similar number of students to the previous year. The College also attracted some new farms to be registered as work placements for the WBL scheme. The seminar structure at a range of venues across England is ever more successful in delivering the curriculum with a range of experience and meeting students needs and expectations. The number of students completing their portfolio and achieving the certification is increasing.

A professional marketing assessment with some recommendations for the online provision has been partly implemented. A new online coordinator was appointed and has started to implement a new approach to marketing. A fundraising start for the development of a new online win making course resulted in a £1000 donation.

All Trustees remain committed and continued their support via 6-weekly Zoom meetings and one annual face to face vision day in January. No trustee resigned and no new one was appointed. Since then, a new trustee was appointed in January 2025.

BIODYNAMIC AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Financial review

The WBL finances continue to be sustainable with a good annual surplus.

The online course offer didn't sufficiently increase the income as expected and let the online provision still running with a small deficit. The stable Trustee group continues to support the BDAC activities regularly and frequently with advice, guidance and encouragement. The Work Based Learning (WBL) and online income streams are mostly unrestricted; the accounts show the combined results. However, further breakdown, at the back of the accounts is a detailed Statement of Financial Activities which splits out the results of the two activities. A small surplus strengthens the overall sustainability and resilience.

Future plans

The Work Based Learning will continue to deliver high quality teaching and keep best quality assurance practices acknowledged by Crossfields Institute. An effort to recruit and support new work placements will be made, to enable an increasing number of potential learners to find placements.

The BDAC executive team is working increasingly together supporting both WBL and online departments. The WBL will continue to support other Biodynamic training in other countries in support of the BDAC aims and objectives, as well as promote its own training and curriculum.

The online training will restructure the online course offering and renew the BDAC website design. It will implement some more recommendations from the professional online assessment to improve marketing and increase online course quality. More fundraising is required to develop the planned new wine making course.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

Biodynamic Agricultural College is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 6 August 2010 and registered as a charity on 11 May 2011. It is governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association and is controlled by a board of trustees, whose members are confirmed at the Annual General meeting and who are directors for the purpose of company law and trustees for the purpose of charity law.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

New trustees are selected on the basis of the contribution that they will make to the governance of the organisation and the skills that they will contribute. They are provided with copies of the Charity Commission's guidance to trustees and given an introduction to the activities of the charity by the existing board and senior management team. All of the charity's trustees are provided with training as and when required.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

List of trustees

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements are listed on the Legal and Administrative page at the front of these financial statements.

BIODYNAMIC AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Statement of Trustee's responsibilities

The trustees, who are also the directors of Biodynamic Agricultural College for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate 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 Companies Act 2006. They are 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.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Mrs J Rosenbrock

Trustee

2 April 2025

BIODYNAMIC AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF BIODYNAMIC AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Biodynamic Agricultural College (the charity) for the year ended 31 August 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

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

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 that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the Companies Act 2006.
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a true and fair view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements 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 financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.

R F Downes FCA
BK Plus Limited
6 Manor Park Business Centre
Mackenzie Way
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire
GL51 9TX
England
2 April 2025

BIODYNAMIC AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
	Notes		
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	2	1,000	28
Charitable activities	3	55,965	60,087
Investments	4	113	86
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total income		57,078	60,201
 Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	5	56,236	55,526
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total expenditure		56,236	55,526
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net income and movement in funds		842	4,675
 Reconciliation of funds:			
Fund balances at 1 September 2023		24,584	19,909
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Fund balances at 31 August 2024		25,426	24,584
		<hr/>	<hr/>

BIODYNAMIC AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

		2024		2023	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Current assets					
Debtors	9	3,380		5,340	
Cash at bank and in hand		22,325		19,793	
		<u>25,705</u>		<u>25,133</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(279)</u>		<u>(549)</u>	
Net current assets			25,426		24,584
			<u><u>25,426</u></u>		<u><u>24,584</u></u>
The funds of the charity					
Unrestricted funds	11		25,426		24,584
			<u>25,426</u>		<u>24,584</u>
			<u><u>25,426</u></u>		<u><u>24,584</u></u>

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 August 2024.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 2 April 2025

Mrs J Rosenbrock
Trustee

Company registration number 07338516 (England and Wales)

BIODYNAMIC AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Biodynamic Agricultural College is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Painswick Inn Project, Gloucester Street, Stroud, Gloucestershire, GL5 1QG, England.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "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)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Charitable funds

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.

1.3 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.

1.4 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.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Donations	1,000	28
	=====	=====

BIODYNAMIC AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
P&P Student fees	5,965	10,567
WBL Student fees	50,000	48,800
WBL other income	-	720
	<u>55,965</u>	<u>60,087</u>

4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Interest receivable	<u>113</u>	<u>86</u>

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Direct costs		
Course costs	45,708	45,607
Software	1,819	1,883
Other office costs	691	667
Advertising	3,720	2,964
Other motor/travel costs	878	819
Staff training	305	540
Bank charges	227	221
Accountancy and legal fees	1,588	1,633
Sundries	1,300	1,192
	<u>56,236</u>	<u>55,526</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	<u>56,236</u>	<u>55,526</u>

6 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

BIODYNAMIC AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

7 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Total	4	4

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

8 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

9 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	3,380	5,340

10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Other taxation and social security	(454)	(156)
Accruals and deferred income	733	705
	279	549

11 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 September 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 August 2024 £
General funds	24,584	57,078	(56,236)	25,426
Previous year:	At 1 September 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 August 2023 £
General funds	19,909	60,201	(55,526)	24,584

BIODYNAMIC AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

12 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2023 - none).

This document was delivered using electronic communications and authenticated in accordance with the registrar's rules relating to electronic form, authentication and manner of delivery under section 1072 of the Companies Act 2006.