

# WALSHAM LE WILLOWS OPEN GARDENS TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 1147893

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 2012-06-29

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** The Rookery  
Wattisfield Road  
Walsham le Willows  
Bury St. Edmunds  
Suffolk  
IP31 3BD

**Phone** 01359 258251

**Email** [garthharlow@outlook.com](mailto:garthharlow@outlook.com)

**Website** [www.walsham-le-willocks.org/explore/annual-events/open-gardens/](http://www.walsham-le-willocks.org/explore/annual-events/open-gardens/)

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO FURTHER GENERAL CHARITABLE PURPOSES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE INHABITANTS OF WALSHAM LE WILLOWS AND THE SURROUNDING AREA AND IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY: (1) ADVANCING THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION BY PROVIDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO ST MARY'S PARISH CHURCH, WALSHAM LE WILLOWS; AND (2) PROMOTING FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE INHABITANTS OF WALSHAM LE WILLOWS AND THE SURROUNDING AREA THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR RECREATION OR OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE NEED OF SUCH FACILITIES BY REASON OF THEIR YOUTH, AGE, INFIRMITY OR DISABLEMENT, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES OR FOR THE PUBLIC AT LARGE IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF LIFE OF THE SAID INHABITANTS.

**Activities:** Predominantly organising an Open Gardens weekend on an annual basis in Walsham le Willows (Village) to provide funds for the charity's purposes which are to provide financial assistance in the Village together with some other small Village fundraising activities for similar purposes

## Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Religious Activities, Environment/conservation/heritage, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups

## Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LOCAL
- Suffolk

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£44,769	£38,147	-	-
2024-12-31	£41,728	£35,722	-	-
2023-12-31	£36,069	£36,795	-	-
2022-12-31	£37,643	£19,496	-	-
2021-09-01	£419	£1,045	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Collen Bruce Baker		2022-01-31
Frances Jane Jenner		2022-01-31
Garth Millward Harlow		2022-01-31
JOHN RICHARD STEBBING		2012-04-26

**WALSHAM LE WILLOWS OPEN GARDENS TRUST**

England & Wales - Charity number 1147893

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# Accounts

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Directors and Officers

Members of the Board of Directors

To further general objectives and to carry out the objects of the charity, the Trustees have decided to fund the following projects:

## THE WALSHAM LE WILLOWS OPEN GARDENS TRUST

Charity number: 1147893

## ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2025

We seem to have the weather firmly on our side (finger crossed for 2026) and once again enjoyed two perfect days for our visitors and the many Walsham volunteers. Our well-located and well-maintained garden is again a popular attraction and we will be delighted to see you back in the garden in 2026. The garden is open from 10.00am to 4.00pm on the first and second Saturdays of the month and we will be delighted to see you back in the garden in 2026.

In 2025, there was another fantastic day at the garden and sale of local produce. The garden was open from 10.00am to 4.00pm on the first and second Saturdays of the month and we will be delighted to see you back in the garden in 2026.

This year we also had music in some of the gardens themselves, enjoyed by performers and visitors alike. There was a small band in the garden and the brass band in the garden. The garden is open from 10.00am to 4.00pm on the first and second Saturdays of the month and we will be delighted to see you back in the garden in 2026.

Visitors continue to remark on the quality and value of the refreshments. We are pleased to see you back in the garden in 2026. The garden is open from 10.00am to 4.00pm on the first and second Saturdays of the month and we will be delighted to see you back in the garden in 2026.

None of this would be possible without the support, help and encouragement we receive from the many members of Walsham residents who have volunteered and given their time and support to the committee. Thank you.

Our work is still going on and we are pleased to see you back in the garden in 2026. The garden is open from 10.00am to 4.00pm on the first and second Saturdays of the month and we will be delighted to see you back in the garden in 2026.

Your warm wishes and good wishes for the year ahead and we will be delighted to see you back in the garden in 2026.

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

### Objectives and Activities

Objects of The Walsham le Willows Open Gardens Trust (the "Trust"):

To further general charitable purposes for the benefit of the inhabitants of Walsham le Willows and the surrounding area and in particular but not exclusively by:

- 1) Advancing the Christian religion by providing financial assistance to St Mary's Parish Church, Walsham le Willows; and
- 2) Promoting for the benefit of the inhabitants of Walsham le Willows and the surrounding area the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants.

### Achievements and Performance

#### ANOTHER HUGE SUCCESS

We seem to have the weather firmly on our side (fingers crossed for 2026) and once again enjoyed two perfect days for our visitors and the many Walsham volunteers. Church bells pealed as the visitors poured in, eager to sample this year's delights — and they certainly weren't disappointed, with 44 open gardens and spaces on offer, a new record. The Village Market was back at the Church Farm entrance and the Flower Power Project adorned the churchyard wall to welcome our guests.

In St Mary's itself, there was another fantastic art exhibition and sale of local artists' work, a floral display on the theme of *Children's Story Books* which was breathtaking, and fantastic music by visiting performers.

This year we also had music in some of the gardens themselves, enjoyed by performers and visitors alike — despite a small clash in the timings of the bell ringing and the clarinet quartet, for which I apologise! Our Morris Dancing friends were here again and the traditional brass bands with quintessentially English sounds drifted over the village on these idyllic summer days. The now traditional rare tortoises, vintage cars, birds of prey in the churchyard and much, much more delighted our visitors.

Visitors continue to remark on the quality, variety and value of the refreshments — indeed, some say they come just for these! The Memorial Hall and Priory Room once again served their famous lunches and teas, including the much-loved Walsham meringues. Pimms in one of the gardens, and the pizza, BBQ and bar at the Elms, delighted the public, serving fine locally sourced food cooked to perfection — with the garden still packed at the end of each day. Our teams at all of our food venues are to be congratulated once again for their dedication and cheerfulness, which visitors value so much.

None of this would be possible without the support, help and encouragement we receive from literally hundreds of Walsham residents, who throw themselves into the event and give their wholehearted support to the committees' amazing efforts.

Once again, it was exhausting at times, but we hope you enjoyed the event as much as we did, and we want to thank you all: the garden owners, the volunteers at the car park, the flower arrangers, the Flower Power team, the art sales folk, the raffle ticket sellers, the helpers at the refreshment venues, the cake makers, the bell ringers, the musicians, the tent erectors (and dismantlers), the traffic cone providers, all our sponsors who advertised in the lovely programme — and many, many more.

Your warm welcome, smiles and generosity shone through, leaving visitors mightily impressed — and we're confident many will return next year.

We are still paying bills and sorting out the accounts, but at this stage we know that we had a record income and we believe that, once again, in excess of £20K has been raised for the village. As always, 50% will go to the fabric fund of the Church, with the rest used to support the many Walsham clubs and organisations who will be invited to submit bids in due course. Look out for the accounts to be published in the *Observer* once all is collected and accounted for.

Once again, a big **THANK YOU** to you all for your support. I do hope that whatever you were involved with, you got completely immersed, enjoyed the whole experience, and came away with a “well-charged community spirit” — plus that warm feeling of being part of the fellowship that is Walsham le Willows, in the beautiful County of Suffolk.

*Collen Baker*

Chair of the Walsham le Willows Open Gardens Trust  
September 2025

## **Financial Review**

Gate money was up 8% (£858) to £12,554 (2024 £11,611), which equates to roughly 107 additional visitors, so yet another successful result.

Total catering receipts were up £565 (+4%) however catering costs were up £936 (20%) hence the net catering result was down £370 (3%), equivalent to 57 Ploughman's Lunches!

Fridge hire cost decreased 15% to £960 and advertising was down 19% to £1,420.

Funds available at year end were £38,131. Deducting the General Reserve (see below) of £11,874 and outstanding grant commitment of £2,000 results in £24,257 being available for Grant Disbursements of which 50% will be paid to St Mary's Church, Walsham le Willows, leaving £12,129 available for other causes in line with the Objectives of the Trust.

## **Reserves policy**

Given that much of the annual expenditure for the annual open gardens event is committed before the event, it is the Trustees aim to maintain a General Reserve to protect the Trust against unforeseen circumstances, for example bad weather. The Trustees agreed that this reserve should be set at 50% of the most recent Total Payments (excluding “Independent Projects”). For 2025, this is 50% of £23,747 or £11,874.

Garth Harlow  
Hon. Treasurer

## Structure and Governance

The method of appointment of Trustees is set out in the Declaration of Trust dated 14<sup>th</sup> June 2012. The members of the Trust are set out below.

### Trustees

Collen Baker – Chairman

Garth Harlow – Hon. Treasurer

Frances Jenner – Trustee

John Stebbing – Secretary

### Committee members

Michael Cousins

Nick Parsons (resigned 6/3/2025)

Grant Robinson

Beverly Rust

Cath Knowles

Dawn Bramham

Tracey Gorzelak

### Administrative information

The contact details for the Trust are:

Mr John Stebbing, Secretary, 2 Vine Cottages, The Street, Walsham le Willows, IP31 3AZ

Mr Garth Harlow, Hon. Treasurer, The Rookery, Wattisfield Road, Walsham le Willows, IP31 3BD

Bankers: Barclays Bank plc, Abbeygate Street, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 1LB

Approved by the Trustees on *11th March* 2026 and signed on their behalf by



Chairman



Hon. Treasurer

**THE WALSHAM LE WILLOWS GARDENS TRUST**  
**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

RECEIPTS	2025	2024	PAYMENTS	2025	2024
	£	£		£	£
Weekend Event (see note A)	43,127.67	41,438.30	Weekend Event (see note A)	-18,439.57	-17,282.13
Bank interest	344.30	289.49	Churchyard Roses		-135.85
			Insurance	-623.20	-580.69
			Administration	-217.48	-45.99
			Repairs & Renewals	-157.42	-1,113.34
			CAPEX - General	-867.41	-1,209.00
			CAPEX - Car Park		
			CAPEX - MVH	-263.29	
			CAPEX - Priory Room	-367.11	
			CAPEX - Elms	-1,668.93	
			CAPEX - Art Show	-367.22	
			Millstone Project	-223.96	
			Friday Party	-551.49	-293.66
			Licencing		-21.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>43,471.97</b>	<b>41,727.79</b>	<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>-23,747.07</b>	<b>-20,681.66</b>
less Payments	-23,747.07	-20,681.66			
<b>NET PROFIT</b>	<b>19,724.90</b>	<b>21,046.13</b>			

**DISBURSEMENTS**

**FROM PRVEIOUS YEAR'S SURPLUS**

St Mary's fabric fund	-10,617.00	-8,015.00
Cricket Club	-1,156.25	
Walsham Wild Wood	-815.00	-130.32
Walsham Allotments	-459.98	-800.00
History Group	-439.91	-554.70
Womens Institute	-102.09	
Churchyard Hedging	-419.40	
Rural Coffee Caravan	-300.00	
Walsham Allotments - SURPLUS REFUND	1,297.00	
Flower Power Project		-244.72
Walsham Pre-School		-1,500.00
Elodie Day		-250.00
St Mary's Clock		-1,500.00
Xmas Tree		-216.25
Walsham Sports Club		-1,500.00
The Priory Room/Walsham Arts Group		-330.45
Up to £2,000 to Sports re hedge		
War Memorial Flowers	-90.00	
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>-13,102.63</b>	<b>-15,041.44</b>
<b>NET AFTER DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>6,622.27</b>	<b>6,004.69</b>

**FUNDS STATEMENT**

	2025	2024
Barclays Opening Balance	31,508.81	25,504.12
Income	43,471.97	41,727.79
Expenditure	-23,747.07	-20,681.66
Dispersements	-13,102.63	-15,041.44
<b>CLOSING BALANCE</b>	<b>38,131.08</b>	<b>31,508.81</b>

Represented by: (as at)	31/12/2025	31/12/2024
Barclays Current Account	20.83	235.97
Barclays Deposit Account	38,110.25	31,272.84
<b>TOTAL FUNDS @ YEAR END</b>	<b>38,131.08</b>	<b>31,508.81</b>

Balances at Barclays Bank at year end have been increased by £1,143.11 due to Gift Aid in relation to 2025 being received post year end.

**THE WALSHAM LE WILLOWS OPEN GARDENS TRUST**  
**NOTES TO THE RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

1. The accounts of the Trust have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 using the receipts and payments basis.
2. Further analysis of Receipts and Payments

NOTES										
Note A: Weekend Event	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024
	Receipts	Payments	Result	GPM	Inc Costs	Receipts	Payments	Result	GPM	Inc Costs
	£	£	£	%	%	£	£	£	%	%
Entrance Fee	12,553.73	-41.54	12,512.19	100%	-67%	11,610.87	-126.15	11,484.72	99%	99%
MVH Car Park	459.90		459.90	100%		544.50		544.50	100%	
MVH Catering	6,823.89	-1,639.09	5,184.80	76%	28%	6,740.33	-1,280.15	5,460.18	81%	2%
Priory Room	3,515.66	-480.23	3,035.43	86%	-21%	3,306.77	-605.83	2,700.94	82%	-2%
Elms BBQ	5,942.63	-3,566.47	2,376.17	40%	25%	5,669.53	-2,863.66	2,805.87	49%	24%
Elms Bar	5,255.21	-2,940.81	2,314.40	44%	39%	4,743.94	-2,121.30	2,622.64	55%	13%
Elms Classic Cars	125.00		125.00	100%		85.00		85.00		
Art Show	2,640.25	-2,028.00	612.25	23%	-9%	2,827.81	-2,219.44	608.37	22%	2%
Pimms Stall	805.29	-234.53	570.76	71%	99%	541.12	-117.95	423.17	78%	-9%
Village Market	600.00		600.00	100%		560.00	0.00	560.00	100%	-100%
Raffle	1,504.00	-304.08	1,199.92	80%	27%	1,265.59	-239.20	1,026.39	81%	37%
Ice Cream	0.00		0.00			180.00		180.00		
Nancy & Freya Plants	16.00		16.00							
Donations/Sponsorship	358.00		358.00			328.34		328.34		
Programme Advertising	1,385.00		1,385.00			1,420.00		1,420.00		
Gift Aid	1,143.11		1,143.11			1,614.50		1,614.50		
MVH Hire		-607.50	-607.50		0%		-607.50	-607.50		0%
First Aid		-550.00	-550.00		5%		-525.00	-525.00		5%
Fridge Hire		-960.00	-960.00		-15%		-1,130.00	-1,130.00		96%
Toilet Hire		-528.00	-528.00		0%		-528.00	-528.00		57%
Bands/Music		-450.00	-450.00		0%		-450.00	-450.00		0%
Advertising		-1,420.80	-1,420.80		-19%		-1,749.80	-1,749.80		18%
Printing		-1,689.00	-1,689.00		-3%		-1,745.60	-1,745.60		4%
Transport		-760.00	-760.00		12%		-680.00	-680.00		3%
Flowers		-214.20	-214.20		-3%		-220.50	-220.50		530%
Helpers		-25.33	-25.33		-65%		-72.05	-72.05		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>43,127.67</b>	<b>-18,439.57</b>	<b>24,688.10</b>			<b>41,438.30</b>	<b>-17,282.13</b>	<b>24,156.17</b>		

Assets retained by the Trust:

**ASSET REGISTER**

Item	Cost £	Date Purchased £	Estimated Replacement Value £
Mains operated coin counter			200.00
Pizza Oven (wood fired)			800.00
Marque			450.00
Blue Gazebo (3m x 6m)			330.00
Catering equipment (various)			850.00
8 x advertising signs (2400x1200mm)			1,000.00
Numerous smaller signs			500.00
8 x folding metal road signs			800.00
8 x large fold up timber tables			800.00
40 x stacking plastic chairs			1,200.00
Shed located at Priory Room			450.00
Art Peg Boards	180.60	10/08/2022	180.00
UniFlame 6 Burner Gas Grill BBQ and cover	462.95	29/05/2022	460.00
8 x SumUp card readers	200.00	27/07/2022	200.00
4 x large PVC Banners	760.00	01/08/2023	760.00
Various crockery & g;asses (Hubbard)	285.00	08/08/2023	285.00
Capital investment storage container WSC	1,000.00	25/10/2023	1,000.00
Dough Roller	544.56	01/07/2024	544.56
2 x A4 Pavement Sign	90.00	17/06/2024	90.00
3 X SumUp Solo	140.40	16/12/2024	140.40
50x white chairs	665.50	06/08/2025	665.50
9x white tables	360.00	06/08/2025	360.00
3m Robusta Gazebo	396.00	30/07/2025	396.00
24 Aprons (MVH & PR)	372.00	28/07/2025	372.00
			<u>12,833.46</u>

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT  
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE WALSHAM LE WILLOWS OPEN GARDENS TRUST**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Walsham le Willows Open Gardens Trust (the "Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2025.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material 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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.



Alison Roberts FMAAT

Acorn Accounting  
Acorn House, Chapel Road,  
Wattisfield, Diss, IP22 1NY

.....10 March..... 2026

**WALSHAM LE WILLOWS OPEN GARDENS TRUST**

England & Wales - Charity number 1147893

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# Accounts

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## THE WALSHAM LE WILLOWS OPEN GARDENS TRUST

Charity number: 1147893

### ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2024

## **ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

### **Objectives and Activities**

Objects of The Walsham le Willows Open Gardens Trust (the "Trust"):

To further general charitable purposes for the benefit of the inhabitants of Walsham le Willows and the surrounding area and in particular but not exclusively by:

- 1) Advancing the Christian religion by providing financial assistance to St Mary's Parish Church, Walsham le Willows; and
- 2) Promoting for the benefit of the inhabitants of Walsham le Willows and the surrounding area the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants.

### **Achievements and Performance**

#### **Chairman's Statement**

#### **THE OPEN GARDENS WEEKEND 2024**

We were extremely lucky with the weather once again, two, warm but not too hot days, made for the perfect conditions for our visitors and for the Walsham volunteers. Church bells pealed as the visitors arrived, eager to sample this year's delights and they certainly were not disappointed by the 36 gardens and open spaces. People were thrilled as they crossed the road; the Flower Power Project with in excess of 3000 crocheted flowers fixed to netting and draped over the brick and flint wall of the churchyard... a total joy to behold.

In St Mary's itself, another fantastic art exhibition and sale of local artists work, a floral display on the theme of 'Nursery Rhymes', music by visiting performers.

The Village Market was housed in the yard at Clarkes again this year and visitors happily browsed the stalls, enjoyed an ice cream and learnt that Walsham's famous builders' merchants have a lot more on offer than they perhaps knew.

At the Memorial Village Hall, we had a recorder group playing and then followed the traditional brass bands with quintessentially English sounds drifting over the village on these idyllic summer days.

Visitors remark on the quality and variety of the refreshments that are provided, indeed some visitors only come to sample them; the Memorial Hall and Priory Room with the now famous lunches and teas including a return of wonderful meringues this year. Pimm's and produce at the allotments, the pizza, BBQ and bar at the Elms delighted the public serving fine locally sourced food cooked to perfection and with the garden still packed at the end of each day with live music continuing well into the evening. Our teams at all our food venues were continuously congratulated as the days passed by.

We had, the now traditional rare tortoises on display, lots of vintage cars, Morris Dancing, birds of prey in the churchyard and much, much more...

None of this would be possible without the support, the help, and the encouragement we get from, literally hundreds of Walsham residents, who throw themselves into the event and give their whole hearted support to my wonderful committee's amazing efforts.

exhausting at times but we hope you enjoyed the event and we want to thank you all; the garden owners of course, the volunteers at the car park, the flower arrangers and the flower power people, the art sales folk, the raffle ticket sellers, the helpers at the refreshment venues, the cake makers, the bell ringers, the musicians, the tent erectors (and dismantlers), the traffic cone providers, all our sponsors who advertised in the lovely programme and many many more.

Your warm welcome, your smiles and your generosity shone through and our visitors were mightily impressed and we are sure that many of them will come again next year....

As a result of the highly successful weekend, the Trust made a spectacular profit of £21,046 for the year. 50% always will go to the fabric fund of the Church, the rest to support the many Walsham clubs and organisations who have been invited to submit funding bids.

Once again, a big THANK YOU to you all for your support. I do hope that whatever you were involved with that you got completely immersed and enjoyed the whole experience and came away with a 'well charged community spirit' plus that warm feeling of being part of the fellowship that is Walsham le Willows in the beautiful County of Suffolk.

Colleen Baker

Chair of the Walsham Le Willows Open Gardens Trust

## Financial Review

Gate money was up £1,805 (+17%) on 2023, which equates to roughly 225 additional visitors, so a very successful result.

Total catering receipts were up £4,156 (+25%) and, because catering costs were up only £814 (13%), the net catering result was up £3,342 (32%), a terrific result given the continued increase in costs generally in the UK.

The Raffle was down 42% to £1,266, further exacerbated by a 36% increase in costs to £239. Fridge hire cost increased 96% to £1,130 due to additional trailers being hired for the Priory Room and The Elms.

Funds available at year end were £31,508.81. Deducting the General Reserve (see below) of £10,272.91 results in £21,235.91 being available for Grant Disbursements of which 50% will be paid to St Mary's Church, Walsham le Willows, leaving £10,618 available for other causes in line with the Objectives of the Trust.

## Reserves policy

Given that much of the annual expenditure for the annual open gardens event is committed before the event, it is the Trustees aim to maintain a General Reserve to protect the Trust against unforeseen circumstances, for example bad weather. The Trustees agreed that this reserve should be set at 50% of the most recent Total Payments (excluding "Independent Projects"). For 2024, this is 50% of £20,545.81 or £10,272.91.

Barth Harlow

Hon. Treasurer

## Structure and Governance

The method of appointment of Trustees is set out in the Declaration of Trust dated 14<sup>th</sup> June 2012. The members of the Trust are set out below.

### Trustees

Collen Baker – Chairman

Garth Harlow – Hon. Treasurer

Frances Jenner – Trustee

John Stebbing – Secretary

### Committee members

Michael Cousins

Nick Parsons

Grant Robinson

Beverly Rust

Cath Knowles (from 21 March 2024)

Dawn Bramham (from 18 April 2024)

Tracey Gorzelak (from 26 September 2024)

### Administrative information

The contact details for the Trust are:

Mr John Stebbing, Secretary, 2 Vine Cottages, The Street, Walsham le Willows, IP31 3AZ

Mr Garth Harlow, Hon. Treasurer, The Rookery, Wattisfield Road, Walsham le Willows, IP31 3BD

Bankers: Barclays Bank plc, Abbeygate Street, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 1LB

Approved by the Trustees on

2025 and signed on their behalf by



Chairman

Hon. Treasurer

**THE WALSHAM LE WILLOWS GARDENS TRUST**  
**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

RECEIPTS	2024 £	2023 £	PAYMENTS	2024 £	2023 £
Weekend Event (see note A)	41,438.30	35,920.26	Weekend Event (see note A)	-17,282.13	-14,961.84
Churchyard Roses		25.00	Churchyard Roses	-135.85	-85.88
Bank interest	289.49	123.35	Insurance	-580.69	-457.84
			Administration	-45.99	-135.34
			Repairs & Renewals	-1,113.34	-355.17
			Capital Expenditure	-1,209.00	-2,784.84
			Public Meeting		-66.86
			Friday Party	-293.66	-31.45
			June Owners Meeting		
			Licencing	-21.00	-21.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>41,727.79</b>	<b>36,068.61</b>	<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>-20,681.66</b>	<b>-18,900.22</b>
less Payments	-20,681.66	-18,900.22			
<b>NET PROFIT</b>	<b>21,046.13</b>	<b>17,168.39</b>			

**DISBURSEMENTS**

St Mary's fabric fund	-8,015.00	-9,094.00
CEVC Primary School		-800.00
Walsham Sports Club	-1,500.00	-2,000.00
Walsham Wild Wood	-130.32	-2,000.00
The Priory Room/Walsham Arts Group	-330.45	-1,362.00
Walsham Allotments	-800.00	-1,720.00
History Group	-554.70	-349.00
National Open Gardens		-20.00
Playground ice cream		-107.24
Xmas Tree	-216.25	-187.00
R Newell Bench		-23.22
Four Ashes Triangle		-232.30
Flower Power Project	-244.72	
Walsham Pre-School	-1,500.00	
Elodie Day	-250.00	
St Mary's Clock	-1,500.00	
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>-15,041.44</b>	<b>-17,894.76</b>
<b>NET AFTER DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>6,004.69</b>	<b>-726.37</b>

FUNDS STATEMENT	2024	2023
Barclays Opening Balance	25,504.12	26,230.49
Income	41,727.79	36,068.61
Expenditure	-20,681.66	-18,900.22
Dispersements	-15,041.44	-17,894.76
<b>CLOSING BALANCE</b>	<b>31,508.81</b>	<b>25,504.12</b>

Represented by: (as at)	31/12/2024	31/12/2023
Barclays Current Account	235.97	80.77
Barclays Deposit Account	31,272.84	25,423.35
<b>TOTAL FUNDS @ YEAR END</b>	<b>31,508.81</b>	<b>25,504.12</b>

**THE WALSHAM LE WILLOWS OPEN GARDENS TRUST**  
**NOTES TO THE RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

- The accounts of the Trust have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 using the receipts and payments basis.
- Further analysis of Receipts and Payments

NOTES							
<u>Note A: Weekend Event</u>							
	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023	
	Receipts	Payments	Result	Receipts	Payments	Result	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Entrance Fee	11,610.87	-126.15	11,484.72	9,839.84	-63.32	9,776.52	
MVH Car Park	544.50		544.50	509.90		509.90	
MVH Catering	6,740.33	-1,280.15	5,460.18	5,695.26	-1,250.67	4,444.59	
Priory Room	3,306.77	-605.83	2,700.94	2,738.76	-619.33	2,119.43	
Elms BBQ	5,669.53	-2,863.66	2,805.87	5,098.35	-2,311.16	2,787.19	
Elms Bar	4,743.94	-2,121.30	2,622.64	2,856.40	-1,874.95	981.45	
Elms Classic Cars	85.00		85.00	100.00		100.00	
Art Show	2,827.81	-2,219.44	608.37	2,774.67	-2,179.18	595.49	
Pimms Stall	541.12	-117.95	423.17	343.30	-129.64	213.66	
Village Market	560.00	0.00	560.00	575.00	-33.49	541.51	
Raffle	1,265.59	-239.20	1,026.39	2,180.01	-175.20	2,004.81	
Ice Cream	180.00		180.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Donations/Sponsorship	328.34		328.34	277.46		277.46	
Programme Advertising	1,420.00		1,420.00	1,523.31		1,523.31	
Gift Aid	1,614.50		1,614.50	1,408.00		1,408.00	
MVH Hire		-607.50	607.50		-607.50	-607.50	
First Aid		-525.00	525.00		-500.00	-500.00	
Fridge Hire		-1,130.00	1,130.00		-576.00	-576.00	
Toilet Hire		-528.00	528.00		-336.00	-336.00	
Bands/Music		-450.00	450.00		-450.00	-450.00	
Advertising		-1,749.80	1,749.80		-1,478.00	-1,478.00	
Printing		-1,745.60	1,745.60		-1,682.40	-1,682.40	
Transport		-680.00	680.00		-660.00	-660.00	
Flowers		-220.50	220.50		-35.00	-35.00	
Helpers		-72.05	72.05				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>41,438.30</b>	<b>-17,282.13</b>	<b>24,156.17</b>	<b>35,920.26</b>	<b>-14,961.84</b>	<b>20,958.42</b>	

### 3. Assets retained by the Trust:

#### ASSET REGISTER

Item	Cost £	Date Purchased £	Estimated
			Replacement Value £
Mains operated coin counter			200.00
Pizza Oven (wood fired)			800.00
Marque			450.00
Blue Gazebo (3m x 6m)			330.00
Catering equipment (various)			850.00
8 x advertising signs (2400x1200mm)			1,000.00
Numerous smaller signs			500.00
8 x folding metal road signs			800.00
8 x large fold up timber tables			800.00
40 x stacking plastic chairs			1,200.00
Shed located at Priory Room			450.00
Art Peg Boards	180.60	10/08/2022	180.00
UniFlame 6 Burner Gas Grill BBQ and cover	462.95	29/05/2022	460.00
8 x SumUp card readers	200.00	27/07/2022	200.00
4 x large PVC Banners	760.00	01/08/2023	760.00
Various crockery & glasses (Hubbard)	285.00	08/08/2023	285.00
Capital investment storage container WSC	1,000.00	25/10/2023	1,000.00
Dough Roller	544.56	01/07/2024	544.56
2 x A4 Pavement Sign	90.00	17/06/2024	90.00
3 X SumUp Solo	140.40	19/11/2024	140.40
			10,265.00

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT  
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE WALSHAM LE WILLOWS OPEN GARDENS TRUST**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Walsham le Willows Open Gardens Trust (the "Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2024.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material 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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.



Alison Roberts FMAAT

Acorn Accounting  
Acorn House, Chapel Road,  
Wattisfield, Diss, IP22 1NY

2<sup>nd</sup> March 2025

**WALSHAM LE WILLOWS OPEN GARDENS TRUST**

England & Wales - Charity number 1147893

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# Accounts

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**THE WALSHAM LE WILLOWS OPEN GARDENS TRUST**

**Charity number: 1147893**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2023**

# **ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

## **Objectives and Activities**

Objects of The Walsham le Willows Open Gardens Trust (the "Trust"):

To further general charitable purposes for the benefit of the inhabitants of Walsham le Willows and the surrounding area and in particular but not exclusively by:

- 1) Advancing the Christian religion by providing financial assistance to St Mary's Parish Church, Walsham le Willows; and
- 2) Promoting for the benefit of the inhabitants of Walsham le Willows and the surrounding area the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants.

## **Achievements and Performance**

### **Chairman's Statement**

#### **THE OPEN GARDENS WEEKEND 2023**

The weather had been kind to us this year, the gardens were looking green and verdant for a change and apart from a late downpour on the Sunday afternoon the weekend was warm, pleasant and ideal for our visitors to enjoy the event in its entirety.

Our Church bells pealed as the visitors arrived in their hundreds, not only the stalwart regulars but plenty of newcomers, all eager to sample this year's delights and they certainly weren't disappointed. We had 35 open gardens and spaces for nearly 2000 visitors to wander through and be inspired by.

In St Mary's, a brilliant Art Exhibition and sale, a Floral Display on the theme of 'a celebration of God's creations', an exhibition by the History group, music from Angel Delight, Ivan Alderton and our own Mary Kidd and in the closed Church Yard birds of prey for the visitors to be amazed by.

The Village Market moved this year and was housed in the yard at Clarkes where visitors happily browsed the stalls. The brass bands played as the bowling club had their traditional competitions both adding to the quintessentially English scene.

Many visitors remark on the quality and variety of the refreshments that are provided, indeed some visitors only come to sample them; the Memorial Hall and Priory Room with the now famous lunches and teas. Pimms and produce at the allotments. The Pizza, BBQ and Bar Crew at the Elms delighted the public serving fine locally sourced food cooked to perfection and with the garden still packed at the end of each day the live music continued well into the evening.

Our well drilled teams at all our food venues throughout the village were continuously congratulated on their efficient performance. We had the rare tortoises again, loads of vintage cars and much much more...

None of this would be possible without the support, the help and the encouragement we get from, literally hundreds of Walsham residents, who throw themselves into the event.

Exhausting at times but we hope you all enjoyed the event and we need to thank you all; the garden owners of course, the volunteers at the car park, the flower arrangers, the art sales folk, the raffle ticket sellers, the many helpers at the refreshment venues, the cake makers, the bell ringers, the musicians, the tent erectors (and dismantlers), all our sponsors who advertised in the lovely programme and many many more. You all know who you are and we, the committee, thank you from the bottom of our hearts, because without you it just wouldn't be possible.

Your warm welcome and generosity shone through with visitors who were simply in awe of the time everyone had invested and the sheer scale of the village effort.

Visitors were impressed that we had kept our entrance charge and other prices at the same level as last year whilst, of course, our own costs had risen dramatically but we still think the weekend was a massive success in financial terms.

We are still paying bills and sorting out the accounts but at this stage we think in excess of £18K has been raised for the village. As always 50% will go to the fabric fund of the Church and the rest will be used to support the many Walsham clubs and organisations who will be invited to submit bids in due course.

Our OGW committee will meet again shortly to reflect and pick through the whole weekend and our visitor feedback forms will be analysed. However, if you have any comments on improvements or suggestions that you would like us to consider please let me know or any other member of the OGW team. We will of course publish a summary of the final accounts here in the Observer once all is collected and accounted for.

Finally, once again please take a well-deserved collective 'pat on the back' and **THANK YOU** to you all so much for all your support. I do hope whatever the activity in which you were involved you got completely immersed and enjoyed the whole experience and came away with a 'well charged community spirit' plus that warm feeling of being part of the fellowship that is Walsham le Willows in the beautiful County of Suffolk.

Collen Baker  
Chair of the Walsham Le Willows Open Gardens Trust  
(written 15 September 2023)

## **Financial Review**

Due to a change in 2022 of the Financial Year End from 30<sup>th</sup> September to 31<sup>st</sup> December, the comparative 2022 accounts represent a 15 month period.

Gate money was down £180 (-2%) on 2022, which equates to roughly 22 less visitors, so a very satisfactory result.

Total catering receipts were up £837 (+5%), but down £245 (-2%) on a net basis, a good result given the significant increase in costs generally in the UK.

Donations/Sponsorship were down £1,486 (-84%) due to the one-off nature of the 2022 Lovells donation and there was a £1,575 increase in Capital Expenditure due largely to the £1,000 contribution to the container at the Sports Club.

Funds available at year end were £25,504.12 less £67.02 of the Churchyard Roses Project, leaving £25,437.10. Deducting the General Reserve (see below) of £9,407.17 results in £16,029.93 being available for Grant Disbursements of which 50% will be paid to St Mary's Church, Walsham le Willows, leaving £8,015 available for other causes in line with the Objectives of the Trust.

## **Reserves policy**

Given that much of the annual expenditure for the annual open gardens event is committed before the event, it is the Trustees aim to maintain a General Reserve to protect the Trust against unforeseen circumstances, for example bad weather. The Trustees agreed that this reserve should be set at 50% of the most recent Total Payments (excluding "Independent Projects"). For 2023, this is 50% of £18,814.34 or £9,407.17.

Garth Harlow  
Hon. Treasurer

## Structure and Governance

The method of appointment of Trustees is set out in the Declaration of Trust dated 14<sup>th</sup> June 2012. The members of the Trust are set out below.

### Trustees

Mr Collen Baker – Chairman (Appointed 31 January 2022)

Mr Garth Harlow – Hon. Treasurer (Appointed 31 January 2022)

Mrs Frances Jenner – Trustee (Appointed 31 January 2022)

Mr John Stebbing – Secretary (Appointed 26 April 2012)

### Additional Committee members

Mr Michael Cousins

Mrs Alison Findlay

Rev. Philip Merry (Retired 8 August 2023)

Mr Nick Parsons (from 20 April 2023)

Mr Grant Robinson

Mrs Beverly Rust

### Honorary Positions

Mrs Penelope Robins – Honorary President (Retired 25 September 2023)

### Administrative information

The contact details for the Trust are:

Mr John Stebbing, Secretary, 2 Vine Cottages, The Street, Walsham le Willows, IP31 3AZ

Mr Garth Harlow, Hon. Treasurer, The Rookery, Wattisfield Road, Walsham le Willows, IP31 3BD

Bankers: Barclays Bank plc, Abbeygate Street, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 1LB

Approved by the Trustees on

2024 and signed on their behalf by

.....

.....

Chairman

Hon. Treasurer

**THE WALSHAM LE WILLOWS GARDENS TRUST**  
**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**  
**(2022 15 months)**

RECEIPTS	2023 £	2022 £	PAYMENTS	2023 £	2022 £
Weekend Event (see note A)	35,920.26	36,483.49	Weekend Event (see note A)	-14,961.84	-13,220.63
Christmas Market		343.08	Christmas Market		-237.03
Churchyard Roses	25.00	816.60	Churchyard Roses	-85.88	-688.70
Bank interest	123.35		Insurance	-457.84	-632.60
			Web maintenance		-141.28
			Administration	-135.34	-125.45
			Repairs & Renewals	-355.17	-298.00
			Capital Expenditure	-2,784.84	-1,209.68
			Public Meeting	-66.86	-149.22
			Beeches Party	-31.45	-20.20
			June Owners Meeting		-10.38
			Licencing	-21.00	-21.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>36,068.61</b>	<b>37,643.17</b>	<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>-18,900.22</b>	<b>-16,754.17</b>
less Payments	-18,900.22	-16,754.17			
<b>NET PROFIT</b>	<b>17,168.39</b>	<b>20,889.00</b>			
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>					
St Mary's fabric fund	-9,094.00				
CEVC Primary School	-800.00				
Walsham Sports Club	-2,000.00				
Walsham Wild Wood	-2,000.00				
The Priory Room/Walsham Arts Group	-1,362.00				
Walsham Allotments	-1,720.00				
History Group	-349.00				
National Open Gardens	-20.00				
Playground ice cream	-107.24				
Xmas Tree	-187.00	-415.74			
R Newell Bench	-23.22	-502.30			
Four Ashes Triangle	-232.30	-1,288.75			
Cummunity Council (Burco)		-535.20			
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>-17,894.76</b>	<b>-2,741.99</b>			
<b>NET AFTER DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>-726.37</b>	<b>18,147.01</b>			
<b>FUNDS STATEMENT</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>			
<b>Barclays Opening Balance</b>	26,230.49	8,048.55			
Petty Cash	0.00	34.93			
<b>OPENING BALANCE</b>	<b>26,230.49</b>	<b>8,083.48</b>			
Income	36,068.61	37,643.17			
Expenditure	-18,900.22	-16,754.17			
Dispersements	-17,894.76	-2,741.99			
<b>CLOSING BALANCE</b>	<b>25,504.12</b>	<b>26,230.49</b>			
<b>Represented by: (as at)</b>	<b>31/12/2023</b>	<b>31/12/2022</b>			
Barclays Current Account	80.77	26,230.49			
Barclays Deposit Account	25,423.35	0.00			
Petty Cash	0.00	0.00			
<b>TOTAL FUNDS @ YEAR END</b>	<b>25,504.12</b>	<b>26,230.49</b>			

**THE WALSHAM LE WILLOWS OPEN GARDENS TRUST  
NOTES TO THE RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

1. The accounts of the Trust have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 using the receipts and payments basis.
2. Further analysis of Receipts and Payments

<b>NOTES</b>					
<b>Note A: Weekend Event</b>					
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>		<b>2022</b>
	<b>Receipts</b>	<b>Payments</b>	<b>Result</b>		<b>Result</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>		<b>£</b>
Entrance Fee	9,839.84	-63.32	9,776.52		10,064.74
MVH Car Park	509.90		509.90		465.00
MVH Catering	5,695.26	-1,250.67	4,444.59		4,410.47
Priory Room	2,738.76	-619.33	2,119.43		1,815.65
Elms BBQ	5,098.35	-2,311.16	2,787.19		3,084.50
Elms Bar	2,856.40	-1,874.95	981.45		1,280.62
Elms Classic Cars	100.00		100.00		120.00
Art Show	2,774.67	-2,179.18	595.49		362.45
Pimms Stall	343.30	-129.64	213.66		200.10
Village Market	575.00	-33.49	541.51		825.00
Raffle	2,180.01	-175.20	2,004.81		2,516.00
Donations/Sponsorship	277.46		277.46		1,763.40
Programme Advertising	1,523.31		1,523.31		1,438.31
Gift Aid	1,408.00		1,408.00		1,656.75
MVH Hire		-607.50	-607.50		-717.12
First Aid		-500.00	-500.00		-450.00
Fridge Hire		-576.00	-576.00		-474.00
Toilet Hire		-336.00	-336.00		-336.00
Bands/Music		-450.00	-450.00		-450.00
Advertising		-1,478.00	-1,478.00		-1,464.50
Printing		-1,682.40	-1,682.40		-2,159.23
Transport		-660.00	-660.00		-600.00
Flowers		-35.00	-35.00		-89.28
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>35,920.26</b>	<b>-14,961.84</b>	<b>20,958.42</b>		<b>23,262.86</b>

3. Assets retained by the Trust:

<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost £</b>	<b>Date Purchased £</b>	<b>Estimated Replacement Value £</b>
Mains operated coin counter			200.00
Pizza Oven (wood fired)			800.00
Marque			450.00
Blue Gazebo (3m x 6m)			330.00
Catering equipment (various)			850.00
8 x advertising signs (2400x1200mm)			1,000.00
Numerous smaller signs			500.00
8 x folding metal road signs			800.00
8 x large fold up timber tables			800.00
40 x stacking plastic chairs			1,200.00
Shed located at Priory Room			450.00
Art Peg Boards	180.60	10/08/2022	180.00
UniFlame 6 Burner Gas Grill BBQ and cover	462.95	29/05/2022	460.00
5 x SumUp card readers	99.00	27/07/2022	200.00
4 x large PVC Banners	760.00	01/08/2023	760.00
Various crockery & glasses (Hubbard)	285.00	08/08/2023	285.00
Capital investment storage container WSC	1,000.00	25/10/2023	1,000.00
			<b>10,265.00</b>

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT  
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE WALSHAM LE WILLOWS OPEN GARDENS TRUST**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Walsham le Willows Open Gardens Trust (the "Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2023.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material 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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Alison Roberts MAAT

Acorn Accounting  
Acorn House, Chapel Road,  
Wattisfield, Diss, IP22 1NY

..... 2024

**WALSHAM LE WILLOWS OPEN GARDENS TRUST**

England & Wales - Charity number 1147893

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# Accounts

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**THE WALSHAM LE WILLOWS OPEN GARDENS TRUST**

**Charity number: 1147893**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2022**

# ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

## Objectives and Activities

Objects of The Walsham le Willows Open Gardens Trust (the "Trust"):

To further general charitable purposes for the benefit of the inhabitants of Walsham le Willows and the surrounding area and in particular but not exclusively by:

- 1) Advancing the Christian religion by providing financial assistance to St Mary's Parish Church, Walsham le Willows; and
- 2) Promoting for the benefit of the inhabitants of Walsham le Willows and the surrounding area the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants.

## Achievements and Performance

### Chairman's Statement

#### THE 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE OPEN GARDENS WEEKEND

The weather was magnificent, making up in part, for the drought conditions that our poor garden owners battled through for the weeks beforehand. Thankfully the torrential rain on the Thursday not only brightened up the gardens but also our souls energising the outlook for this special weekend.

The Church bells pealed as the visitors arrived in their hundreds, not only our stalwart regulars but lots of newcomers, all eager to sample this year's delights. They certainly weren't disappointed; Walsham le Willows celebrated its 40th year Open Gardens in grand style. We had 45 grand open gardens and spaces for nearly 2000 visitors to wander through and be inspired by a village market selling a wealth of local talent and produce, incorporating an inspiring floral display and art exhibition in St Mary's Church. Not to mention brass bands, Morris dancers, musical entertainment, glorious lunches, and teas! BBQ, pizza washed down with refreshing local ale or chilled wine in beautiful tranquil surroundings. Vintage and classic cars clubs, the list goes on and on not forgetting multiple giant tortoises that any national zoo would envy.

The compliments came in thick and fast as our guests handed back the feedback forms. So humbling as the whole Walsham community welcomed the outside world into our wonderful village. It was incredibly encouraging none of which would have been possible but for such an enormous community effort involving literally hundreds of Walsham residents all involved in the various aspects of what the weekend had on offer; the garden owners, village volunteers at the car park, the Church, the flower arrangers, the raffle ticket sellers, the helpers at the refreshment venues, the cake makers, the bell ringers, the musicians, the tent erectors (and dismantlers), our sponsors who advertised in the lovely programme and so on and so on.

You all know who you are and we, the committee thank you from the bottom of our hearts, because without you it couldn't and wouldn't have been such a success. Your warm welcome and generosity shone through with visitors who were simply in awe of the time everyone had invested and the sheer scale of the total village effort. Preliminary gross takings of just shy of £30k exceeded our wildest dreams which means after expenses an estimated nett total in the region of £19k has been raised for our village. As always 50% will go to the the Church and the rest will be used to support the many Walsham clubs and organisations who will be invited to submit bids in due course.

Our OGW committee will meet again shortly to reflect and pick though the whole weekend. Our visitor feedback forms will be analysed which we will share with you all. However, if you have any further comments on improvements or suggestions that you'd like us to consider please let me know or any other member of

the OGW team. We will of course publish a summary of the final accounts here in the Observer once all is collected and accounted for.

Finally, once again please take a well-deserved collective 'pat on the back' and THANK YOU to you all so much for all your support. I do hope whatever the activity in which you were involved you got completely immersed and enjoyed the whole experience; although maybe exhausting at times hopefully you came away with a 'well charged community spirit' and that warm feeling of being part of the fellowship that is Walsham le Willows, Bury St Edmunds in the beautiful County of Suffolk.

Collen Baker

Chairman

(written in September 2022)

## **Financial Review**

In 2022, the Trustees changed the Financial Year End from 30<sup>th</sup> September to 31<sup>st</sup> December, so these accounts represent a 15 month period. The reason for the change was to ensure that all the income and expenditure for the annual open gardens event is captured in that financial period. Grant disbursements for that year's event will be reflected in the next financial reporting period. This amendment has resulted in two Christmas Tree purchases and two years of insurance being included in these accounts.

The Christmas Market and Churchyard Roses were not projects of the Trust, but the Trust assisted with the receipts and payments for these projects (the "Independent Projects").

As a result of the Global Covid Pandemic, the last Open Gardens event was held in 2019, so a comparative review of the previous year is meaningless. Comparing these results to 2019, excluding "Independent Projects", Total Receipts increased by 58% from £23,015 to £36,483, Total Expenditure increased 30% from £12,123 to £15,828 and so Net Profit increased by 90% from £10,892 to £20,655. It is clear that 2022 was an exceptional year, in both financial and enjoyment terms.

Funds available at year end were £26,230.49 less £127.90 of the Churchyard Roses Project, leaving £26,102.59. Deducting the General Reserve (see below) of £7,914 results in £18,188.59 being available for Grant Disbursements of which 50% will be paid to St Mary's Church, Walsham le Willows, leaving £9,094 available for other causes in line with the Objectives of the Trust.

## **Reserves policy**

Given that much of the annual expenditure for the annual open gardens event is committed before the event, it is the Trustees aim to maintain a General Reserve to protect the Trust against unforeseen circumstances, for example bad weather. The Trustees agreed that this reserve should be set at 50% of the most recent Total Payments (excluding "Independent Projects"). For 2022, this is 50% of £15,828 or £7,914.

Garth Harlow

Hon. Treasurer

## Structure and Governance

The method of appointment of Trustees is set out in the Declaration of Trust dated 14<sup>th</sup> June 2012. The members of the Trust are set out below.

### Trustees

Mr Collen Baker – Chairman (Appointed 31 January 2022)

Mr Garth Harlow – Hon. Treasurer (Appointed 31 January 2022)

Mrs Frances Jenner – Trustee (Appointed 31 January 2022)

Mr John Stebbing – Secretary (Appointed 26 April 2012)

Mr Robin Newell – Retired 19 March 2022

Mr John Hall - Retired 20 January 2022

### Additional Committee members

Mr Michael Cousins

Mrs Alison Findlay

Rev. Philip Merry

Mr Grant Robinson

Mrs Beverly Rust

### Honorary Positions

Mrs Penelope Robins – Honorary President

### Administrative information

The contact details for the Trust are:

Mr John Stebbing, Secretary, 2 Vine Cottages, The Street, Walsham le Willows, IP31 3AZ

Mr Garth Harlow, Hon. Treasurer, The Rookery, Wattisfield Road, Walsham le Willows, IP31 3BD

Bankers: Barclays Bank plc, Abbeygate Street, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 1LB

Approved by the Trustees on

2023 and signed on their behalf by



Chairman

Hon. Treasurer

**THE WALSHAM LE WILLOWS GARDENS TRUST**  
**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT 31 DECEMBER 2022**  
**(30th September 2021)**

RECEIPTS	2022	2021	PAYMENTS	2022	2021
	£	£		£	£
Weekend Event (see note A)	36,483.49		Weekend Event (see note A)	-13,220.63	
Christmas Market	343.08		Christmas Market	-237.03	
Churchyard Roses	816.60		Churchyard Roses	-688.70	
Donations		418.83	Insurance	-632.60	-316.30
			Advertising		-70.00
			Web maintenance	-141.28	-113.84
			Administration	-125.45	-15.11
			Repairs & Renewals	-298.00	-129.46
			Capital Expenditure	-1,209.68	
			Village party		-399.91
			Public Meeting March	-149.22	
			Beeches Party	-20.20	
			June Owners Meeting	-10.38	
			Licencing	-21.00	
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>37,643.17</b>	<b>418.83</b>	<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>-16,754.17</b>	<b>-1,044.62</b>
less Payments	-16,754.17	-1,044.62			
<b>NET PROFIT</b>	<b>20,889.00</b>	<b>-625.79</b>			

**DISBURSEMENTS**

Stream clearing		-775.00
Xmas Tree	-415.74	-174.00
R Newell Bench	-502.30	
Four Ashes Triangle	-1,288.75	
Cummunity Council (Burco)	-535.20	
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>-2,741.99</b>	<b>-949.00</b>
<b>NET AFTER DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>18,147.01</b>	<b>-1,574.79</b>

**FUNDS STATEMENT**

	2022	2021
Barclays Opening Balance as at 1 October	8,048.55	9,594.25
Petty Cash	34.93	64.02
<b>OPENING BALANCE</b>	<b>8,083.48</b>	<b>9,658.27</b>
Income	37,643.17	418.83
Expenditure	-16,754.17	-1,044.62
Dispersements	-2,741.99	-949.00
<b>CLOSING BALANCE</b>	<b>26,230.49</b>	<b>8,083.48</b>

<b>Represented by: (as at)</b>	<b>31/12/2022</b>	<b>30/09/2021</b>
Barclays Closing Balance	26,230.49	8,048.55
Petty Cash		34.93
<b>TOTAL FUNDS @ YEAR END</b>	<b>26,230.49</b>	<b>8,083.48</b>

Note: £127.90 (£816.60 less £688.70) of Total Funds at year end 2022 are for account of "Churchyard Roses" project.

**THE WALSHAM LE WILLOWS OPEN GARDENS TRUST  
NOTES TO THE RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

1. The accounts of the Trust have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 using the receipts and payments basis.
2. Further analysis of Receipts and Payments

<b>NOTES</b>			
<b>Note A: Weekend Event</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>Receipts</b>	<b>Payments</b>	<b>Result</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Entrance Fee	10,064.74		10,064.74
MVH Car Park	465.00		465.00
MVH Catering	5,501.31	-1,090.84	4,410.47
Priory Room	2,332.25	-516.60	1,815.65
Elms BBQ	4,612.99	-1,528.49	3,084.50
Elms Bar	3,137.42	-1,856.80	1,280.62
Elms Classic Cars	120.00		120.00
Art Show	1,739.92	-1,377.47	362.45
Pimms Stall	310.40	-110.30	200.10
Village Market	825.00		825.00
Raffle	2,516.00		2,516.00
Donations/Sponsorship	1,763.40		1,763.40
Programme Advertising	1,438.31		1,438.31
Gift Aid	1,656.75		1,656.75
MVH Hire		-717.12	-717.12
First Aid		-450.00	-450.00
Fridge Hire		-474.00	-474.00
Toilet Hire		-336.00	-336.00
Bands/Music		-450.00	-450.00
Advertising		-1,464.50	-1,464.50
Printing		-2,159.23	-2,159.23
Transport		-600.00	-600.00
Flowers		-89.28	-89.28
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>36,483.49</b>	<b>-13,220.63</b>	<b>23,262.86</b>

3. Assets retained by the Trust:

Item	Cost £	Date Purchased £	Estimated Replacement Value £
Art Peg Boards	180.60	10/08/2022	
UniFlame 6 Burner Gas Grill BBQ and cover	462.95	29/05/2022	
5 x SumUp card readers	99.00	27/07/2022	
Mains operated coin counter			200.00
Pizza Oven (wood fired)			800.00
Marque			450.00
Blue Gazebo (3m x 6m)			330.00
Catering equipment (various)			850.00
8 x advertising signs (2400x1200mm)			1,000.00
Numerous smaller signs			500.00
8 x folding metal road signs			800.00
8 x large fold up timber tables			800.00
40 x stacking plastic chairs			1,200.00
Shed located at Priory Room			450.00

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT  
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE WALSHAM LE WILLOWS OPEN GARDENS TRUST**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Walsham le Willows Open Gardens Trust (the "Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2022.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material 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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.



Alison Roberts MAAT

Acorn Accounting  
Acorn House, Chapel Road,  
Wattisfield, Diss, IP22 1NY

1<sup>st</sup> February 2023