

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 40th 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 30th September to 31st 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 14th 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	
Total Receipts	37,643.17	418.83	Total Payments	-16,754.17	-1,044.62
less Payments	-16,754.17	-1,044.62			
NET PROFIT	20,889.00	-625.79			

DISBURSEMENTS

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

FUNDS STATEMENT

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

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

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

NOTES			
Note A: Weekend Event			
	2022 Receipts £	2022 Payments £	2022 Result £
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
TOTAL	36,483.49	-13,220.63	23,262.86

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

1st February 2023