

Annual Accounts to 30 September 2023

The Besom in Taunton
(A company limited by guarantee)

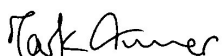
Company No. **8500773**

ST JAMES CHURCH
St James Street
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 1JS

Directors' Report

- A) The principal activities of the company
- (94910 - Activities of religious organisations). The Besom in Taunton is a charity which helps Christians go out and serve their community. It provides links between social agencies and churches, so that those who are in need can be reached by those who feel called to serve.
- B) Details of the company directors (Trustees)
- Roger Keith Habgood (Chairman); Jeremy Peter Gainsford; Elaine Fenton; Mark Christopher Turner (Treasurer)
- C) Political donations and expenditure
- none
- D) Charitable donations
- The Besom Network (£914); Taunton Foodbank (£100)
- E) Acquisitions of own shares
- none
- F) Employment of disabled persons
- none

Treasurer: Mark Turner

Signature: 

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Date: 12/02/24

Income & Expenditure Trends

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Income					
General	£10,862	£8,906	£11,827	£12,620	£16,687
Crisis Food Boxes	£699	£2,794	£3,514	£3,516	£695
Seasonal Hampers	£60	£35	£150	£50	£10
Starter Packs	£3,947	£3,909	£3,753	£3,553	£6,450
Warehouse	£9,281	£8,163	£9,255	£8,850	£8,850
Interest					£23
Besom Network Insurance			£4,509		£6,127
Total Income	£24,849	£23,808	£33,008	£28,589	£38,842
Expenditure					
General / Admin	£1,145	£3,514	£3,312	£3,011	£2,873
Crisis Food Boxes	£1,477	£3,269	£5,535	£4,513	£2,941
Seasonal Hampers	£18	£9	£50		£202
Starter Packs	£3,714	£5,691	£5,816	£7,217	£12,411
Projects	£1,334	£107	£72	£531	£694
Warehouse	£8,249	£10,261	£9,715	£9,865	£8,212
Van running costs	£2,155	£2,163	£1,940	£1,651	£2,158
Website	£438	£85	£164	£319	£163
Charitable donations					£1,014
Besom Network Insurance			£4,509		£6,127
Van Depreciation	£388	£310	£248	£199	£159
Total Expenditure	£18,918	£25,409	£31,361	£27,306	£36,955
Net Surplus / Deficit	£5,931	-£1,602	£1,647	£1,283	£1,887
Funds Brought Forward	£20,475	£26,406	£24,804	£26,452	£27,735
Funds Carried Forward	£26,406	£24,804	£26,452	£27,735	£29,621

Balance Sheet for the Year Ending 30 September 2023

Fixed Assets	Cost	Depreciation	Net
Diesel Van	£5,920	£5,284	£636
Warehouse rental deposit (see note)			£3,100
Current Assets			
HSBC Current Account			£6,963
HSBC Deposit Account			£22,023
Credit balance on ASDA pre-pay card			£82
Gifts & Cheques Awaiting Banking			-
Total Assets			£32,803
Current Liabilities			-
Total assets less current liabilities			£32,803
Share Capital and Reserves			
Share Capital			-
Retained Funds			£20,603
Reserves			£12,200
Total Capital and Reserves			£32,803

Note: The deposit for the rented warehouse has been held by the landlord since the 2016-17 financial year.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts for the year ending 30 September 2023 have been independently examined, and the examiner has confirmed that:

1. the accounting records have been presented correctly;
2. the accounts were in agreement with the records presented; and
3. the formatting of the accounts was correct.

The examiner has made no comment in relation to any other concerns about the accounts.

Notes to the accounts

In line with the accounting framework set out by The Charity Commission:

- an examination of the accounts is required under section 145(1) of the Charities Act 2011
- section 144(1) (audit) of the Charities Act 2011 does not apply to the charity
- the current thresholds for audit are not exceeded
- the charity is exempt from audit in accordance with section 477 of the Companies Act 2006
- the accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis under section 133 of the Charities Act 2011

The directors and members of the core [management] team receive no remuneration for their support of the charity. No HMRC taxation of income is required as Besom is a non profit-making charitable company.

Designated funds

The designated funds are as follows:-

1. Crisis Food Boxes
2. Seasonal Hampers
3. Starter Packs
4. Warehouse
5. Website
6. Reserves (see below)

The purpose of the individual funds is to keep track of any income and expenditure associated with the appropriate fund.

Reserves and Depreciation

The general reserves fund stands at £5,000 in line with the reserves policy. The main concerns of the trustees are:-

- to conform to the Charity Commissions Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP);
- to ensure that there are sufficient funds for committed expenditure (ie the warehouse lease); and
- to have some time in trying to secure new funding.

The general reserves fund would enable the current level of activity to continue for at least 3 months if a crisis in ongoing funding should occur.

The van is being depreciated at 20% per annum on a reducing balance basis. A separate reserve fund has been established to fund the eventual replacement of the van; this stood at £7,200 at 30 September 2023.



Financial Review – The Besom in Taunton
for the year 1st October 2022 to 30th September 2023

Gross income in this financial year was £38,842; this included £6,127 received from other Besoms in the UK to allow The Besom in Taunton to pay a single collective insurance premium on behalf of the Besom network. Excluding this sum, the **net income was £32,715** – an increase of £4,126 compared with the 2021-22 financial year. Net expenditure (excluding the additional insurance premium of £6,217 paid on behalf of the other Besoms) was £30,828 – an increase of £3,522 compared with the previous year.

In line with accounting framework set out by the Charity Commission, and as income exceeded £25,000, an independent examination is being carried out of the accounts for 2022-23. The Annual Return will be completed and submitted to the Charity Commission within six months of the financial year end date (30th September 2023), and will detail our spending and reserves.

Our thanks, once again, go to the following churches for their regular financial support, without which the Besom would not be in a position to lease the warehouse:

- All Saints Church, Trull
- Living Light Church
- North Street Church
- Riverside Church
- St. James Church
- Vineyard Church

We are also deeply appreciative for the continuing generosity of all our regular givers, and for those who have contributed one-off donations throughout the year. This year we have received corporate donations from:

- J P Gainsford Associates
- LiveWest

In addition, we have also been generously supported by the following people and organisations that have held fund-raising events on our behalf, or have forwarded the proceeds from events they have arranged:

- Marion Steed
- Wellington Methodist Church

Fund Movements

Donations have been matched with the appropriate designated fund where possible. On the basis that individual funds cannot operate with deficits, any shortfalls in specific donations have been made up from the general fund.

	Opening	Income	Expenditure	Closing
Crisis Food Boxes		£695	£2,941	
Seasonal Hampers	£227	£10	£202	£35
Starter Packs		£6,450	£12,411	
Warehouse		£8,850	8,212	£638
Website			£163	

Reserves

There are two reserve funds: the general reserve and a fund for replacement of the Besom's van.

The general reserve fund stands at £5,000 in line with the reserves policy. This fund is required to:

- conform to the Charity Commission's Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP);
- ensure that there are sufficient funds for committed expenditure (specifically the warehouse lease); and
- have some time in trying to secure new funding if such need should arise.

The general reserve fund would enable the current level of activity to continue for 3 months in case of an income hiatus, assuming that expenditure on starter packs was suspended.

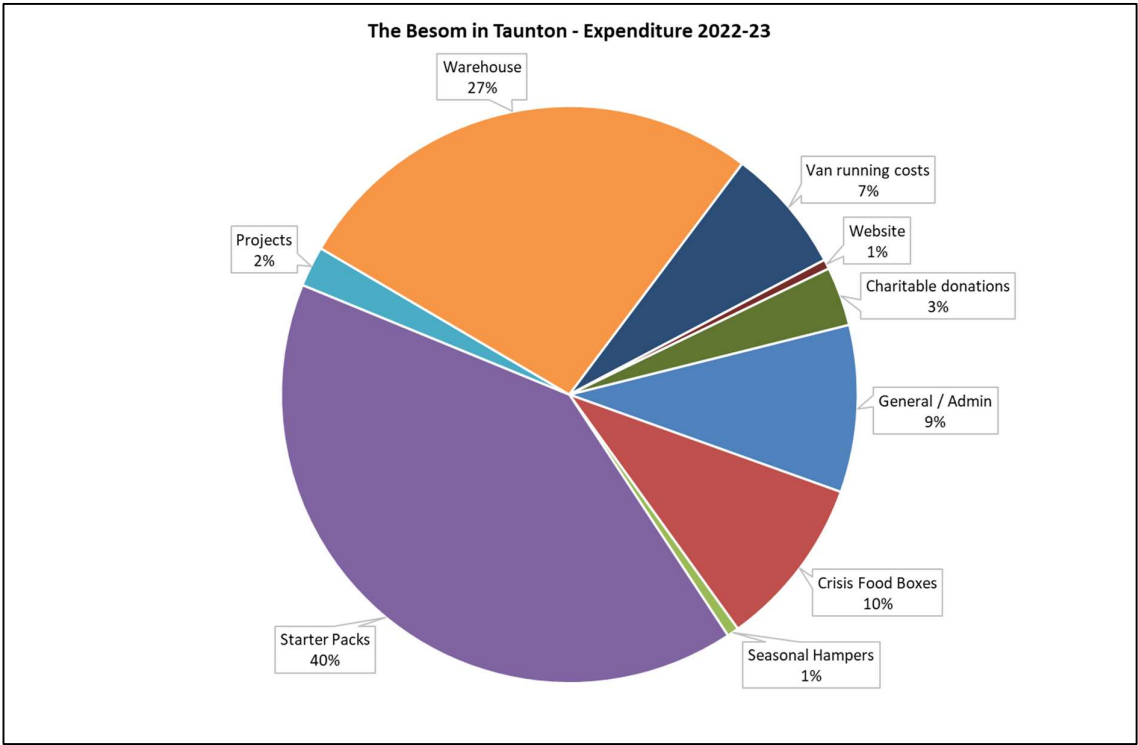
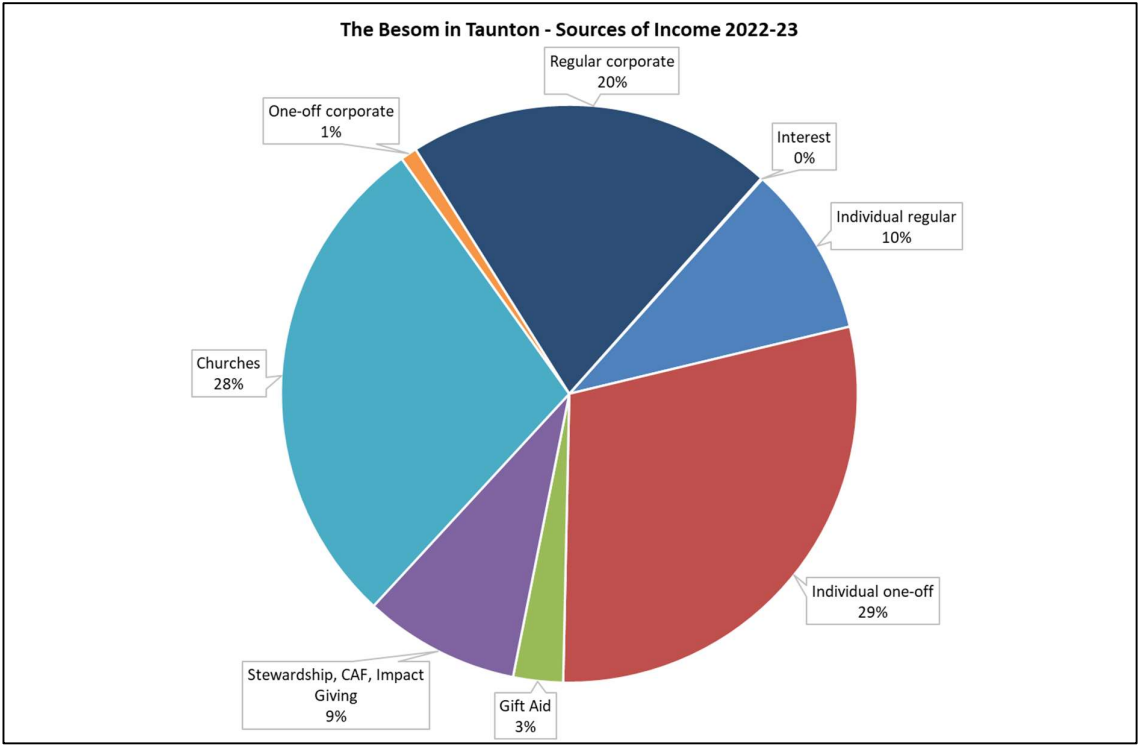
The reserve fund for replacement of the Besom's van stood at £7,200 on 30 September 2023.

Income and Expenditure

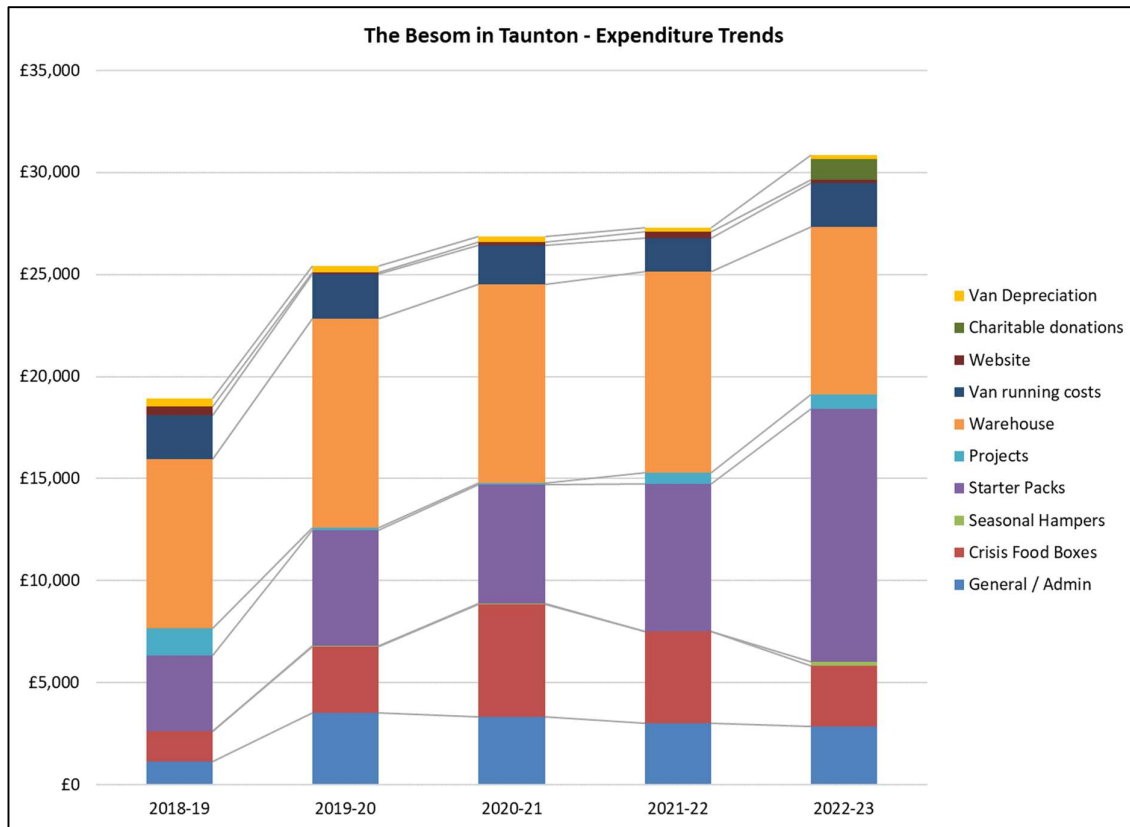
A breakdown of income and expenditure is presented in the table below.

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Income					
General Fund	£10,862	£8,906	£11,827	£12,620	£16,687
Crisis Food Boxes	£699	£2,794	£3,514	£3,516	£695
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The pie charts below indicate the income and expenditure under each heading.



The column chart shows how expenditure has varied over the last five years.



Comments

Expenditure on crisis food boxes in this financial year reduced by 35%, mainly due to the continued arrangement with Taunton Foodbank, but also partly due to the pausing of food box deliveries towards the end of the financial year. In contrast, expenditure on starter packs increased by 72% this year (and was 113% higher than in 2020-21). Expenditure on projects was 31% higher than it was in 2021-22.

General / admin expenditure reduced by 5% compared with 2021-22. The main elements within this expenditure were regular utility bills (37%), insurance (17%) and management of safeguarding (8%).

The trustees decided to donate tax recovered through Gift Aid during 2022-23 and in future to support the national Besom Network. Also, the Besom had been providing financial contributions to Taunton Foodbank, recognising that the Foodbank was providing food to Besom recipients that we would otherwise have had to source ourselves. Following the decision to pause food box deliveries, the trustees decided to continue the donations to the Foodbank until the end of 2023; with effect from September 2023 these have been counted as charitable donations, rather than being included as food box expenditure.

Mark Turner
Treasurer, The Besom in Taunton
 November 2023



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
The Besom In Taunton

**On accounts for the year
ended**

30th September 2023

**Charity no
(if any)**

1152511

Set out on pages

1 and 2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30/09/2023.

**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 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

S J Winks

Date:

30/11/2023

Name:

Stephen Winks

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Address:

20 Bromwich Road

Sheffield

S8 0GF

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.