

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023
FOR
FAIR FROME**

Berkeley Hall Marshall Limited
6 Charlotte Street
Bath
BA1 2NE

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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FAIR FROME

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Our aims and objectives

Fair Frome aims to prevent and relieve financial, educational, social and health poverty for people living in Frome and the surrounding areas. This will be achieved through the provision of direct services and through the support and development of other organisations in such a way that they are able to identify and meet these needs.

Our activities and how we work

We continue to support local people through projects that provide help when it is needed. Our projects are funded by the generosity of our local councils, community groups, residents and local businesses who all donate so generously to our charity.

We have a small but important staff group, comprising two part-time coordinators (working 2 and a half days a week) on a 50/50 job share, and a part-time furniture bank coordinator. We also pay for support from self-employed contractors on an hourly basis to cover our Food at Five project and other schemes. We have provided training for staff, volunteers and trustees in Safeguarding, First Aid, Food Hygiene, Mental Health and other essential areas of work. All of our Trustees and Volunteers must have attended one of our Safeguarding courses.

Our volunteers remain at the heart of our work. We have supported over 50 volunteers including young people with additional needs as well as those completing their Duke of Edinburgh scheme, and have provided over 100 volunteer hours every week. Some of our volunteers have progressed to securing employment with the skills that they have gained from their experience with Fair Frome.

Fair Frome acts as an umbrella group, regularly bringing together local agencies working with people in poverty to share ideas and plan joint services. This proved to be especially useful during the latter stages of the pandemic and the early days of the cost of living crisis. Fair Frome supports other groups and events in the town including the Carnival Club, 'Frome Christmas Get Together' and the Frome Children's Festival.

We also work with the local community to raise a voice against the causes of poverty and deprivation both locally and nationally and are affiliated to the Independent Food Aid Network (IFAN), The Equality Trust and the Living Wage Campaign.

Public benefit

The charity objectives and aims are performed with regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

FAIR FROME

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Our Achievements Over the Year

2023 marks the ninth year that Fair Frome has been in existence. For nearly two years the charity has been looking for new premises as we have outgrown our old home at the Elliott Building, tucked in behind the Town Hall. Particularly during the difficulties of COVID, the Elliott Building became extremely cramped and crowded. After searching and looking at scores of potential new premises, we eventually found somewhere suitable at Unit 7, Longacre on the Marston Trading Estate. The new build is substantially larger than the old Elliott Building, with room to accommodate our Furniture Bank as well as provide a home for our new Baby Basics Bank. In addition, there is also a kitchen as well as three separate offices for multiple uses including meeting rooms. An outside space for a garden is also available. For the Furniture Bank, finding new premises was particularly important as where the furniture was previously stored had become regularly flooded as well as being rodent-infested. The Trustees are delighted to report that a 5 year lease for the premises was signed in January 2023 (with a break clause after 3 years). As at the 31 March, the new premises were being refurbished and kitted out ready for use not only as a Food Bank but also for the other services that Fair Frome were already providing or had hopes of providing in the near future. It is planned that the Furniture Bank will have its own separate area. The planned date for moving from the Elliott Building to our new home is the end of April.

Until that date at the end of April, the Food Bank will remain at the Elliott Building. However, with the agreement of our landlords of the Elliott Building, Frome Town Council, once we have moved to our new Unit at Longacre we shall remain in possession of the Elliott Building with plans to open a Community Pantry during the early summer of 2023.

In the meantime, whilst we plan for our move and future commitments, rising fuel bills and the cost of living crisis has ensured that our core activity of the Food Bank and related services have seen increased demand. More of our clients remain in work (over 40%) but simply cannot afford to get by, facing high costs and low wages. Over the past year, set out below are just some of the tasks that we have managed to carry out:

- Food Bank-we have given out 1373 food parcels to 560 individuals, 245 couples, 568 families over the year with additional items of fresh food such as eggs, milk cheese, fresh fruit and vegetables.
- Collected and distributed 45,030 kgs of food through the Food Bank and local schools.
- Delivered over 200 Christmas Parcels
- Given out over 2634 vouchers through the food bank, for fresh fruit and vegetables from a local shop.
- Given out over 2520 meat vouchers for a local butcher to provide quality and fresh food
- Given out over 1175 bread vouchers for a local baker to provide quality and fresh bread
- Gifted more than 300 toys and books wrapped and personally addressed Christmas presents
- Been part of the team delivering the Frome Christmas Get-Together this year in 3 locations which is now providing 180 meals as well as company during Christmas Day
- Food at Five. Not only have our team provided over 100 hot meals every week in 3 different geographic areas of the town, free to anyone on benefits or low income, but in addition, the chance to meet and speak with other people in a warm space providing a hot sit down meal in an inviting environment
- Holiday Hunger. We have provided an average of 35 meals per session 3 times a week during the school holidays combined with activities delivered by our partner Purple Elephant, to referred families
- Furniture Bank. Despite the difficulties over issues of storage, we have still nevertheless provided support to over 120 households in the Frome area. We have repaired cookers and washing machines where possible. Refurbished and repaired free white goods and household items of furniture have been referred to individuals, couples and families, thus saving them from landfill
- Assistance Scheme. During the year we have continued to provide school uniforms. We have also provided vouchers for clothes and school, particularly as we see family budgets squeezed. We have also provided key and essential items such as transport for appointments, laptops, carpets and other essential items to referred families. Frome Lions and the local Rotary Clubs and Inner Wheel have been essential in providing us with funding for the more expensive items
- Our Baby Basics Bank was started in December 2022 providing essentials like formula milk and nappies to cots and buggies to referred families
- Food for schools. We have delivered additional food parcels to Frome schools for families on Free School Meals
- Through our targeted purchasing policy, where possible we have ensured that we have supported local businesses.

FAIR FROME

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Looking to the Future - A Message from our Joint Chairs

As indicated above, much of our efforts in the past year has been dedicated to both finding and securing larger and better premises. However, the last twelve months have also seen a significant change on the membership of our Board of Trustees. After founding and leading Fair Frome for nearly 9 years, Bob Ashford resigned as both Chair and Trustee in January 2023. A huge vote of gratitude and thanks must go not only to Bob, but also the other trustees who resigned in January after so many years of service to Fair Frome. Karen Stewart now steps up from Vice Chair to Joint Chair together with John Killah, who has already served as a Trustee since 2019. The departure of Bob and the other trustees has meant that the start of the financial year ended 31st March 2024 has meant that Fair Frome now has the opportunity to search for and select new trustees with different skills and expertise.

Our finances remain sound. Throughout the past year we have also been conscious that it is good practice for a Charity to review its reserves policy every few years. There remains the necessity of balancing the spending of funds that donors provide to us and at the same time being prudent in being able to meet the financial challenges that lie ahead. At the commencement of a new financial year, we remain conscious that not only have we committed to a five year lease of our new premises (with some of those linked costs yet to be paid), but are also going ahead with new projects such as the Community Pantry at our old home in the old Elliott Building.

FAIR FROME

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Our reserves policy

We hold reserves so that we can keep running our services even if our income from donations drops, or something unexpected happens. Trustees review our reserves policy annually and decide on the appropriate level of reserves to hold.

At the end of the last financial year (31 March 2023) our total funds were £244,727.

Some of these reserves are not accessible for us to spend. Our fixed assets of £4,475 cannot be easily turned into cash without selling the assets that we hold.

The remaining reserves available total £240,252. All these reserves are 'unrestricted' but our policy is to designate reserves for specific purposes.

At 31 March 2023, we were holding £8,000 to set up the Community Pantry, relating to a grant that we received.

Our main reserve is for operational costs if our income drops. We aim to keep six to twelve months' expenditure as a reserve for operational costs. Given the uncertainty caused by the ongoing cost of living crisis, Trustees agreed to hold twelve months' expenditure as a reserve at present. This amounts to £200,000 based on our latest expenditure forecast.

The Trustees also agreed to hold a 'crisis fund' of £1,000 per month which we could use to buy additional food if needed during the cost of living crisis. This accounts for a further £12,000 of our reserves. We aim to hold this reserve until demand for our services starts to fall.

We are also holding a reserve for maintaining or replacing property and other assets. This reserve is for costs over and above our operational expenditure. Our current reserve for property and assets is £20,000. The first call on this reserve is likely to be to replace the furniture bank van in the next twelve months.

This means that the reserves that we aim to hold total £240,000, against an available fund of £240,252. The Trustees consider that this reflects the particular circumstances of Fair Frome at 31 March 2023, but will keep reserves under review as circumstances change.

Looking at the year ahead and reflecting on the patterns that we see within our own organisation, regrettably we believe that the cost of living crisis will continue to have a profound impact on all of our work.

It is therefore even more important that at this stage we thank all of our many supporters and friends who have helped us over the past year, from local Councils, particularly at Frome Town Council, other charities and local organisations such as Rotary, Frome Lions and Inner Wheel. The business community in and around Frome has been instrumental in helping us grow stronger. Most of all, Fair Frome has been most reliant on the people who both live or work in the town and its surrounding areas. Whether by occasional donations of food at the supermarket or by a monthly standing order, without the people of Frome it would not be possible for Fair Frome to meet the many challenges that lie ahead. So, a huge 'thank you' to all!

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1156185

Principal address

Frome Town Hall
Christchurch Street West
Frome
Somerset
BA11 1EB

FAIR FROME

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

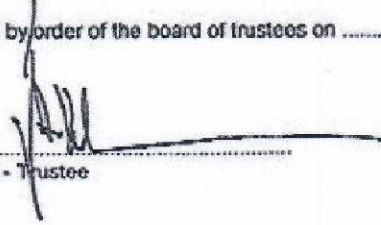
Trustees

J A Killah
K L Stewart
R J Cannings
M Dorrington (resigned 23.1.23)
B Ashford (resigned 23.1.23)
R Ramsden (resigned 23.1.23)
S L Perrett
K Huckle (resigned 23.1.23)
S Butler (resigned 23.1.23)
C Whittard (resigned 23.1.23)
B Goddard
P Birch (appointed 5.6.23)
A Hills (appointed 5.6.23)
J Drake (appointed 5.6.23)
L Davis (appointed 5.6.23)
N Willis (appointed 5.6.23)

Independent Examiner

Berkeley Hall Marshall Limited
8 Charlotte Street
Bath
BA1 2NE

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 16th October 23 and signed on its behalf by:


J A Killah - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF FAIR FROME

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Fair Frome

I report to the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts of Fair Frome (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

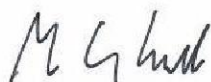
Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.



Matthew Small FCA

Berkeley Hall Marshall Limited
6 Charlotte Street
Bath
BA1 2NE

Date: 31 OCTOBER 2023

FAIR FROME

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		259,259	-	259,259	152,088
Investment income	2	567	-	567	10
Total		<u>259,826</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>259,826</u>	<u>152,098</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
General activity		160,025	-	160,025	124,785
Other		987	-	987	1,227
Total		<u>161,012</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>161,012</u>	<u>126,012</u>
NET INCOME		98,814	-	98,814	26,086
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		145,913	-	145,913	119,827
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>244,727</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>244,727</u>	<u>145,913</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

FAIR FROME

**BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	5	4,475	-	4,475	5,462
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	6	5,533	-	5,533	-
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>241,617</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>241,617</u>	<u>140,991</u>
		<u>247,150</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>247,150</u>	<u>140,991</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	(6,898)	-	(6,898)	(540)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>240,252</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>240,252</u>	<u>140,451</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>244,727</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>244,727</u>	<u>145,913</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>244,727</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>244,727</u>	<u>145,913</u>
FUNDS	8				
Unrestricted funds				<u>244,727</u>	<u>145,913</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>244,727</u>	<u>145,913</u>

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

.....
J A Killah - Trustee

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

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

Expenditure

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

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 15% on reducing balance
Motor vehicles	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 25% on reducing balance

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

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

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

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

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

FAIR FROME

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2023	2022
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>567</u>	<u>10</u>

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

4. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	152,088	-	152,088
Investment income	<u>10</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10</u>
Total	<u>152,098</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>152,098</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
General activity	124,785	-	124,785
Other	<u>1,227</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,227</u>
Total	<u>126,012</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>126,012</u>
NET INCOME	26,086	-	26,086
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	119,827	-	119,827
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>145,913</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>145,913</u>

FAIR FROME

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023	<u>13,365</u>	<u>6,000</u>	<u>657</u>	<u>20,022</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 April 2022	9,573	4,577	410	14,560
Charge for year	<u>569</u>	<u>356</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>987</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>10,142</u>	<u>4,933</u>	<u>472</u>	<u>15,547</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 March 2023	<u>3,223</u>	<u>1,067</u>	<u>185</u>	<u>4,475</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>3,792</u>	<u>1,423</u>	<u>247</u>	<u>5,462</u>

6. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	<u>5,533</u>	<u>-</u>

7. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	5,746	-
Other creditors	<u>1,152</u>	<u>540</u>
	<u>6,898</u>	<u>540</u>

8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	145,913	98,814	244,727
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>145,913</u>	<u>98,814</u>	<u>244,727</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	259,826	(161,012)	98,814
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>259,826</u>	<u>(161,012)</u>	<u>98,814</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	119,827	26,086	145,913
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>119,827</u>	<u>26,086</u>	<u>145,913</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	152,098	(126,012)	26,086
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>152,098</u>	<u>(126,012)</u>	<u>26,086</u>

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

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	119,827	124,900	244,727
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>119,827</u>	<u>124,900</u>	<u>244,727</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	411,924	(287,024)	124,900
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>411,924</u>	<u>(287,024)</u>	<u>124,900</u>

FAIR FROME

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

9. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2023.

FAIR FROME**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	2023 £	2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	104,284	46,921
Gift aid	5,533	-
Grants	28,802	16,425
Local giving	116,870	86,132
Sundry income	3,770	2,610
	<u>259,259</u>	<u>152,088</u>
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	567	10
Total incoming resources	<u>259,826</u>	<u>152,098</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	41,545	36,684
Pensions	1,063	1,010
Insurance	1,975	902
Light and heat	1,449	552
Telephone	415	688
Postage and stationery	1,186	531
Advertising	255	171
Charitable expenditure	76,172	71,248
Repairs & maintenance	9,745	-
Furniture storage	3,000	3,000
Motor expenses	2,150	1,474
Travel and subsistence	93	-
Rent	12,843	4,290
Computer expenses	376	1,198
Sundry expenses	1,340	1,761
Subscriptions	370	110
Training	1,173	506
	<u>155,150</u>	<u>124,125</u>
Other		
Fixtures and fittings depreciation	569	670
Motor vehicles depreciation	356	475
Computer equipment depreciation	62	82
	<u>987</u>	<u>1,227</u>
Support costs		
Finance		
Bank charges	87	-