

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
For the Period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

Section A: Reference and administration details

Kent Firefighting Museum
Registered Charity No: 1157631

Principal Address

Kent Firefighting Museum
Woodlands Garden Centre, Ash Lane, Ash, Nr Sevenoaks, Kent TN17 7EG

Names of Trustees

J W Beech, Chairman of Trustees
AC Wells, Vice Chairman
H Myers, Treasurer
K Clay
J Luque
K Sivell (from November 2023)

Section B: Structure Governance and Management

Kent Firefighting Museum is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation the only voting members of which are its charity Trustees. The charity has the “Foundation” model constitution, and new Trustees are appointed by the Board of Trustees.

During 2023 two of our valued Trustees resigned, one on grounds of ill health and the other due to pressure of other commitments. In addition to this, the rotation of Trustees meant that two more Trustees left the Board in November 2023: Messrs J Meakins and R Miller. However, the Museum was fortunate to secure the services of Mr Kevin Sivell as a Trustee.

Also due to rotation of Trustees, Chairman Mr J Beech and Vice Chairman Mr A Wells together with Mr H Myers, will be stepping down as Trustees in November 2024, having completing their three terms of office.

Following Mr Myers’ notice of intention of standing down as Treasurer, during the year the Board of Trustees were fortunate enough to obtain the services of Mrs Debbie Payne as Temporary Treasurer.

Whilst in its infancy the Management Committee, formed following the 2022 AGM and under the Chairmanship of Mr J Luque, is functioning as was perceived, thereby allowing Trustees to focus on governance, probity, and oversight of the Museum.

The Museum continues to operate using volunteers and has no paid employees.

Mrs Debbie Payne was elected as Treasurer and Mrs Trish Hopkins was re-elected to Secretary to the Board of Trustees and the Museum.

During 2023/24 the Museum was open from 8 March until 10 December 2023: it re-opened on 6 March 2024.

Section C: Objectives and activities

The objects of the charity, set out in its governing document, are to advance education for the public benefit in the subject of firefighting in Kent, its history and heritage by the establishment and maintenance of a museum and learning resources. All Trustees have made the statutory declaration to have regard to the guidance of the Charity commission on public benefit.

In this ninth year of operation, it is pleasing to report that the Museum, through the help of its very resourceful and valued group of volunteers, was able to remain open on 5 days a week (Wednesday – Sunday) for the entire period as well as on other days such as Bank Holidays and pre-arranged visits.

Section D: Achievements and performance

During the 2023/24 period the Museum received 6,196 visitors: it was also promoted at outside events such as Fire Station open days and continues to give presentations to various societies.

The Website is now fully functional and receives many requests for historical information through this medium, most of which are satisfied due to the immense knowledge of the Museum's Curator. The Website is continually monitored and updated as necessary with consideration currently being given to allow donations to be collected through this medium.

Preparations are in their infancy for an Open Day to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Kent Firefighting Museum being at Woodlands Garden Centre. This event will be in June 2024.

Section E: Financial review

The Lease for the premises which Kent Firefighting Museum occupy was due for renewal in September 2023. Renewal was successfully completed and the site secured for a further 7 years.

The Charity did not adopt a policy on reserves in this period of operation.

During the period under report, income from donations and interest was £4,369 Expenditure was £2,127 providing a surplus of £2,242 for the year.

The closing balance at the bank as at 31 March 2024 was £59,550.

The Charity's bankers are the Charities Aid Foundation, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, Kent ME19 4TA.

The Charity has no funds materially in deficit.

Section F: Other optional information

The Museum does not charge for admission.

Section G: Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees report above.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees



Jeremy Wilson Beech CBE, QFSM
Chairman of Trustees 2023/2024

Date: 17th December 2024



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
KENT FIREFIGHTING MUSEUM No (if any)
1157631

Receipts and payments accounts

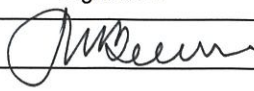
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For the period from **1st APRIL 2023** To **31st MARCH 2024**

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
DONATIONS	4250 -	-	-	-	2795 -
BANK INTEREST	119 -	-	-	-	86 -
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	4369 -	-	-	-	2881 -
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	4369 -	-	-	-	2881 -
A3 Payments					
PREMISES	39 -	-	-	-	1633 -
REPAIRS	95 -	-	-	-	511 -
ADMINISTRATION	10 -	-	-	-	1685 -
PROFESSIONAL FEES	984 -	-	-	-	1520 -
ADVERTISING	150 -	-	-	-	348 -
OTHER COSTS	761 -	-	-	-	1667 -
BANK CHARGES	68 -	-	-	-	-
MOTOR EXPENSES	20 -	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	2127 -	-	-	-	7364 -
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	2127 -	-	-	-	7364 -
Net of receipts/(payments)	2242 -	-	-	-	4483 -
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	57308 -	-	-	-	61791 -
Cash funds this year end	59550 -	-	-	-	57308 -

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	CAF BANK ACCOUNT	59550 -	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	59550 -	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	59550	-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		JEREMY BEECH	17.12.2024	