

BRIGHTON TRAM 53 SOCIETY

England & Wales · Charity number 1157813

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2014-07-14

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

Contact

Address 14 Malling Down
Lewes
BN7 2BN

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Email tram53project@yahoo.com

Website www.brightontram53.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE URBAN TRANSPORT HERITAGE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY (I) RESTORING BRIGHTON CORPORATION TRAMCAR NUMBER 53 TO THE ORIGINAL CONDITION AND DISPLAY AND OPERATE IT AS A WORKING EXAMPLE OF THE URBAN TRANSPORT HERITAGE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM (II) COLLECTING AND PRESERVING ITEMS OF URBAN TRANSPORT HERITAGE AND MAKING THESE AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

Activities: We are restoring to running order the last Brighton passenger tram car left in the world. We are currently rebuilding the body and have now started to tackle the electrics. We own a truck and other electrical components. We allow public access to the tram and we display frequently at shows to raise money and to educate people about this project and also have a second Brighton tram, works car 1.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Other Finance, Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** Elderly/old People, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Brighton And Hove
- East Sussex
- West Sussex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£4,294	£5,398	-	-
2024-03-31	£2,890	£10,299	-	-
2023-03-31	£13,480	£8,427	-	-
2022-03-31	£8,427	£18,673	-	-
2021-03-31	£6,101	£8,896	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
GUY MATTHEW HALL	Chair	2014-03-24
MR RAY HAMBLING		2014-03-24
PHILIP HAMERTON		2014-03-24

BRIGHTON TRAM 53 SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1157813

Accounts

Brighton Tram 53 Society		
Annual Income & Expenditure Accounts		
For the year 1/4/2024 to 31/3/2025		
INCOME	2024/2025	2023/2024
Membership Subscriptions	£ 920.00	£ 770.00
Donations	£ 563.05	£ 988.10
Product Sales	£ 1,517.13	£ 1,132.32
HMRC - Gift Aid	£ 1,293.82	£ -
Other	£ -	£ -
Total Income	£ 4,294.00	£ 2,890.42
EXPENDITURE		
Material	£ 1,242.51	£ 1,557.55
Equipment	£ -	£ 22.95
Product Purchases	£ 273.29	£ 297.38
Hires	£ 110.00	£ 24.00
Sundries	£ 536.39	£ 268.02
Specialist Services	£ 3,110.16	£ 7,988.18
Postage	£ 42.50	£ 55.45
Pay Pal & SumUp Charges	£ 13.24	£ 17.68
Bank Charges	£ 69.99	£ 67.67
Total Expenditure	£ 5,398.08	£ 10,298.88
SURPLUS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	£ (1,104.08)	£ (7,408.46)
Accumulated Bank Balance Impact of Income/Expenditure		
Carried forward from 2023/2024	£ 26,664.74	£ 34,073.20
End of year (gain) 2024/2025	£ (1,104.08)	£ (7,408.46)
Actual Bank Balance 31 March 2025	£ 25,560.66	£ 26,664.74
Prepared By:- Patrick Clinton	10 April 2025	
Accepted By:- Committee & AGM	21 July 2025	

BRIGHTON TRAM 53 SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1157813

Accounts

Brighton Tram 53 Society 13th AGM 2024

21st July 2024

BMRC Clubroom, London Road (Brighton) Station

3:00 PM

a) The minutes of the 12th AGM were agreed

b) Matters arising: Amberley, Tram Controller and Membership. These will be covered in greater detail later in the meeting.

c) CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: There is a need for more active members. The principal tram itself (tram 53) has steady work progress on it, whilst our second tram, number 1, has also been worked on, and the plan is to make it have disabled access. In respect of the principal tram, windows are now done and much of the interior. Seat covers are in progress.

Stanmer: Meeting with Kingspan - they are looking for potential buildings on the site.

A Transport Trust will be needed when it comes to the actual running of the tram.

For the year ahead there is potentially a date for a move to Stanmer. Harris Co. will move the tram. The park is owned by the Council but the building are owned by Kingspan.

PayPal has stopped working - this may be an issue with new terms and conditions at PayPal or the internet connection - to be investigated.
Action: Finance/GH

Where will the track come from? We have made a request to Croydon Tram link.

d) FINANCE & INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT: Pat, a qualified Accountant, is retiring and a new person will need to be found for this position. The financial spreadsheet was provided. Items of note were the air brakes that had to be re-done, a future cost to re-gauge the truck (by Dorlec) from 1 metre to 3'6'' (circa £100K) and a pair of DB1 tram controllers. On a visit to Portugal potential contacts were made that may assist.

e) SECRETARY: No items to report

f) MEMBERSHIP: 73 membership, stable from last year. Website will need updating. Rather than a membership card members can print the e-mail acknowledgement.

g) WORKS: Handbrake to be made up. Upholstery to be made up - a reel of maquette from new is around £10k. Conway St (the old Brighton bus depot) may have material or it is possible that LT Acton Museum may have some.. This will be an urgent request as Conway St. is being cleared. The turning seats on the tram seem to have been 'ad hoc' handmade designs on the original tram, there is no pattern to follow. Handrails - use stainless steel rather than brass. Destination indicator - a old bus mechanism can be used for the roller blind.
Action: members who have links with the bus station.

h) SHOWS & PUBLICITY: An advert will put in the Industrial Archaeology Society for September. Tinkers Park - we will have a stand this year but the cost of £100 may mean that this will not be used in future years. Secretary mention that he may be able to provide publicity at the Crawley MRC Open Day in 2025. Rail Magazine are interested in our work. Possible approach to 'Latest TV' and 'Ricochet' for TV coverage. Action: GH

i) ELECTION of COMMITTEE: No change, proposed by GJ, Seconded by BD.

j) ANY OTHER BUSINESS: A former member is advertising a '53' badge, as this is a not-for-profit organisation the member will be invited to make a corresponding contribution. Gift aid has been done by Ray. Roger at the Brighton and Hove Heritage Commission has died. He was most helpful to the Society and we expressed our sympathy.

Meeting closed at 16:05.

Finance Report on the Brighton Tram 53 Society

Annual Income & Expenditure Accounts for the year 1/4/2023 to 31/3/2024.

I would like to open by stating that the above year has been another busy year with actual transactions on our detailed spreadsheet of 130 together with supporting paperwork.

I need to repeat what I said last year that as a Registered Charity, that also claim Gift Aid, we have to maintain clear accurate and auditable records, with supporting paper-work. The Charity Commission and HMRC have the right to Audit Tram 53 affairs. It is important to note that if either were to undertake a review they would just not look at the Financial Record keeping in isolation, but would also assess how we run the Society. We all need to be aware of this as we enter an exciting period.

I would now like to comment on the actual years Accounts.

The Society has had a challenging financial year ending with Expenditure exceeding Income by of £7,408. This being the second highest deficit since our formation in 2010.

Membership was unchanged against previous year.

Donations were down by over £4k to £988. Prior year £5k. Our average donations since forming were nearly £5k.

Our Product Sales were down by £173 with selling remaining a challenge in these difficult times.

There was no Gift Aid this year. Since becoming a Charity, we have claimed a total of £13,500 in Gift Aid. We encourage all those who can to provide a Gift Aid declaration to the Society so that we can gain additional income.

Other income was £0 with prior year figure being as a result of legacy of £5,207 from a deceased member.

The main points to note on Expenditure are as follows: -

Total Expenditure at £10,298 was higher than prior year by £3k. This tends to reflect the more complex and specialist needs for the restoration.

This year saw a reduction in cost of Materials of £1,443.

Product Purchases (for later sale) was up at £297 to £21 in the previous year. Given the Sales figures it is prudent not to over purchase new stock.

Hires for events down by £27.

Sundries were down by £285.

Specialist Services costs were £7,988. Possibility that these costs may continue at this level or even increase as we enter complex final stages of the restoration.

Postage costs down by £23.

Pay Pal & SumUp charges down by £18 together with reduced Bank Charges. Wherever possible Members are encouraged to pay by bank transfer directly into our account.

Finally, I wish to thank Keith Carter for reviewing and signing-off the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024.

I would also like to inform all Members that this current year (2024-2025) will be my last as Treasurer as I will be stepping down from the role.

This completes my comments on the 2023/2024 Accounts.

Patrick Clinton
Hon. Treasurer
Brighton Tram 53 Society
July 2024

BRIGHTON TRAM 53 SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1157813

Accounts

Minutes, Tram 53 12th AGM, 9th July 2023

Meeting opened 1500 hours.

1/ **Apologies;** Dave Taylor, Brian Robinson, Blay Whitby, Ian Patterson, Malcolm Chambers, Roger Cobbe, David Chappell.

Those members present;

George Mower, Phil Hamerton, Ian Gledhill, Keith Carter, Guy Hall, Peter Field, David Taylor, Brian Cooper, Steve Winnard, Patrick Clinton, Rick Axby, Ralph Taylor, Les Glaskin.

2/ Minutes of 11th AGM, read and agreed by all present.

Proposer

P Hammerton, seconded G. Mower.

3/ **Matters arising;** Guy stated that any possible move to Amberly in future was now almost impossible, as despite contact from himself, there had been a very negative and unrealistic reply or response back. We will discuss this later in the meeting.

4/ **Chairman's report;** Guy talked about incurred costs and future ones. The truck refurb is expected to cost around £90,000, and we will have to work hard to fund this in the coming future. The society currently has enough funds to see the completion of the tram as it stands now, and work on the body and associated parts is going well. Costs for the handbrake system is not yet known. It was stated that possibly contacting Croydon might be considered, with a view to them sponsoring controllers. The controllers we have are too large for 53. Regarding shows this year, 2023, Tinkers Park was reasonable, although Southampton was a virtual waste as takings were very low. Possibly due to Covid, footfall at shows in 2022 was very poor, and there are not many more shows this year for us to attend. But even so, the society still desperately needs more members to volunteer for shows. It is not a hard job, and without people manning the stall, income to 53 will be

affected. We also need members to join the Committee, and this is a vital role for the society.

2.

5/ **Finances.** It was said by the Treasurer Pat, that HMRC can at any time ask to carry out inspections, and check on the finances, and how they are run. Consequently, a lot of work and dedication has to go in to preparing our finances. Gift aid last year was good, but income from shows was, inevitably low...referred to in the Chairman's report. A legacy from the late, much missed John Zebedee was really good. Bank charges for cheque usage has increased substantially, therefore Pat asks members to use BACS if possible. Many thanks to Keith for signing off on the accounts; over the previous 13 years of 53's renovation, we have turned over nearly £200,000 and a vote of thanks to Pat was asked for. Proposed by David Start, Seconded Peter Field.

6/ **Membership Report;** We have 31(27) life members; 2 honorary members; Annual paid-up members 31(29) includes those due 1st Oct, '23.

7/ **Works.** All goes well with the work on 53, and members attending work parties are doing a great job. Stairs are fitted, and looking very good. Weather has affected painting of 53 in some ways but it is going well never the less. Guy is awaiting a solution on controllers, but enquiries are on-going. Publicity was discussed, and more publicity would obviously be hugely beneficial for our society, so please, if members can find sponsors it would be brilliant. Stanmer Park was discussed also, and things may be more positive in regards to that, but it is early days and discussions are ongoing currently.

8/ Election **of Committee**. A vote was taken, and it was agreed by members that the Committee stays as it is. Proposed, Brian Cooper, seconded Steve Winnard.

9/ **Any other business;** Volks Railway in Brighton are celebrating their 140th anniversary, and on the 12th August will hold a cavalcade at 11.45 on Madeira Drive. Congratulations to the Volks! No further business was brought up.

The meeting closed at 16.15 hours

<u>Brighton Tram 53 Society</u>			
Annual Income & Expenditure Accounts			
For the year 1/4/2022 to 31/3/2023			
	INCOME	2022/2023	2021/2022
	Membership Subscriptions	£ 770.00	£ 615.00
	Donations	£ 5,201.93	£ 5,443.02
	Product Sales	£ 1,305.23	£ 2,219.38
	HMRC - Gift Aid	£ 895.68	£ -
	Other	£ 5,307.07	£ 150.00
	Total Income	£ 13,479.91	£ 8,427.40
	EXPENDITURE		
	Material	£ 3,000.96	£ 3,974.53
	Equipment	£ -	£ 2,202.82
	Product Purchases	£ 21.00	£ 723.00
	Hires	£ 51.00	£ 63.50
	Sundries	£ 553.10	£ 608.33
	Specialist Services	£ 3,485.33	£ 11,034.87
	Postage	£ 78.88	£ 39.14
	Pay Pal & SumUp Charges	£ 35.90	£ 7.49
	Bank Charges	£ 74.15	£ 19.40
	Total Expenditure	£ 7,300.32	£ 18,673.08
	SURPLUS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	£ 6,179.59	£ (10,245.68)
Accumulated Bank Balance Impact of Income/Expenditure			
	Carried forward from 2021/2022	£ 27,893.61	£ 38,139.29
	End of year (gain) 2022/2023	£ 6,179.59	£ (10,245.68)
	Actual Bank Balance 31 March 2023	£ 34,073.20	£ 27,893.61
	Prepared By:- Patrick Clinton 29 April 2023		
	Accepted By:- Committee & AGM 9 July 2023		

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BRIGHTON TRAM 53 SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1157813

Accounts

Minutes of the AGM, Brighton Tram 53, 17th July 2022.

1/ Chairman's opening remarks;

Apologies from Ralph Taylor, P. Williamson, Ray Hamblin, Dave Taylor, Terry Russell, John Bishop, Rick Axby.

Attendees; Guy Hall, Phil Hamerton, Les Glaskin, Blay Whitby, George Mower, Steve Winnard, Roger Sharman, Malcolm Chambers.

2/ The minutes of previous meeting were read, all agreed. It was mentioned that the on-site shed is now secure, new locks fitted, and other security measures now in place.

3/Chairman's report; Guy read from his report, work on the tram is going along superbly, the usual "chestnut" mentioned...not enough members coming forward to assist with manning the stall at shows; these shows are vital with funding 53's continued progress, so please, more members helping out with shows? Publicity was discussed, with exploration of new and different ways of getting 53 out to the people, and hopefully bringing more new members to our society. Approved, Roger Sharman.

4/Financial report; As read from Patrick Clinton. We currently have enough in the fund to complete the body and fittings on 53; Again, we discussed future fairs and displays. Gift aid will hopefully be forthcoming later this year. Guy spoke of future expenses on some items, resistor boxes being one of the most expensive; the compressor will also be an expense later on The brake valves will soon be supplied hopefully, we are awaiting a response on those.

5/ Secretaries report; I had nothing to report due to the fact that I had been incapacitated of late. On that note Gentlemen, I have to

2/

report that following a hospital visit yesterday, 19th July, I was given a diagnosis I did not wish to get. Future treatments, scans etc: so please excuse any absences in the future?

6/ Membership report from Phil Hamerton; On the books we currently have 69 names, the majority of whom have paid subs, some not...so please get them in ASAP. No cheques please, as the bank has gone rogue on us, and is now charging us for any cheque transactions. Since the last AGM we had one new member, and one returnee. Very sad to say we lost John Zebedee and John Hayward.

7/Works report; This has been partially covered already, as you will have read; work on 53 is progressing well, thanks to those dedicated members who have been at the work parties. More would be very welcome. Stairs have gone to AC Metals for the work on the stringers to be done. The seats are almost all done and paid for, with a couple still available to buy.

8/ Publicity. The next show is, I believe, Tinkers Park on the 4th and 5th of August. A date for the next open day at 53 was suggested as the 3rd and 4th of September; the previous one earlier this year was very well attended, and really successful.

9/ Amberley. There has been little progress on this subject, despite contact between both parties...mainly from our end! Roger said that at present we have no alternative plan for 53, should Amberley come to nothing; any members have any ideas for a plan B? Suggestions would be welcome. A further contact will be made by Guy and Malcolm, to Amberley with our proposal, and we must await their response and just see what comes next. Proposed by Blay, seconded by Phil.

3/

10/ Election of the Committee; All of those present agreed that it will remain as it currently is.

11/ Any further business; there being none, and getting rather warmer, the meeting was declared over at 16.10.

George Mower,

Secretary.

Brighton Tram 53 Society			
Annual Income & Expenditure Accounts			
For the year 1/4/2021 to 31/3/2022			
INCOME		2021/2022	2020/2021
Membership Subscriptions	£	615.00	£ 1,885.00
Donations	£	5,443.02	£ 1,561.30
Product Sales	£	2,219.38	£ 520.11
HMRC - Gift Aid	£	-	£ 2,134.78
Other	£	150.00	
Total Income	£	8,427.40	£ 6,101.19
EXPENDITURE			
Material	£	3,974.53	£ 3,471.33
Equipment	£	2,202.82	£ 755.98
Product Purchases	£	723.00	£ 129.46
Hires	£	63.50	£ (61.00)
Sundries	£	608.33	£ 417.44
Specialist Services	£	11,034.87	£ 4,045.50
Postage	£	39.14	£ 129.73
Pay Pal Charges		£7.49	£ 7.52
Bank Charges	£	19.40	
Total Expenditure	£	18,673.08	£ 8,895.96
SURPLUS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	£	(10,245.68)	£ (2,794.77)
Accumulated Bank Balance Impact of Income/Expenditure			
Carried forward from 2020/2021	£	38,139.29	£ 40,934.06
End of year 2021/2022	£	(10,245.68)	£ (2,794.77)
Actual Bank Balance (reduced) 31 March 2022	£	27,893.61	£ 38,139.29
Prepared By:- Patrick Clinton	29 April 2022		
Accepted By:- Guy Hall	29 April 2022		

BRIGHTON TRAM 53 SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1157813

Accounts

Brighton Tram 53 Society

Annual Income & Expenditure Accounts For the year 1/4/2020 to 31/3/2021

INCOME	2020/2021
Membership Subscriptions	£ 1,885.00
Donations	£ 1,561.30
Product Sales	£ 520.11
HMRC - Gift Aid	£ 2,134.78
Total Income	£ 6,101.19
EXPENDITURE	
Material	£ 3,471.33
Equipment	£ 755.98
Product Purchases	£ 129.46
Hires	£ (61.00)
Sundries	£ 417.44
Specialist Services	£ 4,045.50
Postage	£ 129.73
Pay Pal Charges	£ 7.52
Total Expenditure	£ 8,895.96
SURPLUS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	£(2,794.77)

Accumulated Bank Balance Impact of Income/Expenditure	
Carried forward from 2019/2020	£ 40,934.06
End of year 2020/2021	£ (2,794.77)

Actual Bank Balance (reduced) 31 March 2021	£ 38,139.29
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Prepared By:-	Patrick Clinton	29 April 2021
Accepted By:-	Guy Hall	29 April 2021

2019/2020

£ 1,045.00

£ 7,566.14

£ 953.20

£ 8,019.85

£17,584.19

£ 2,510.82

£ 151.89

£ 428.00

£ 138.00

£ 811.06

£ 3,176.83

£ 81.58

£ 3.94

£ 7,302.12

£10,282.07