

## **Trustees' annual report:**

Period start date: **01/01/24**

Period end date: **31/12/24**

Charities Name: **Manchester and District Beekeepers Association.**

Charity Number: **1159052**

<b>Objectives and Activities.</b>	
Summary of the purpose of the charity as set out in its governing document.	To advance and encourage the understanding of bees; beekeeping and the practice of good beekeeping for the public benefit.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	<p>and exemplify Our main activities for the public benefit are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• promote good practice in the management of healthy honeybee colonies</li><li>• ensure that association members have access to appropriate and relevant information and training regarding honeybee health and safe beekeeping practices including information on pollinators and their place in an ecosystem that includes honeybees</li><li>• offer training and ongoing support for new/novice beekeepers including the placement of apiaries and the issue of over foraging a given area</li><li>• offer short “taster” sessions on beekeeping for the public</li><li>• staff visitors centre based in Heaton Park, opened once each week 36 weeks of the year, offering information on honeybees and native pollinators</li><li>• work with Heaton Park staff to increase their awareness of pollinators and honeybee life cycles</li><li>• deliver teaching and talks for schools, local social groups and organisations working with the public about bees and pollinators to encourage a wide interest and knowledge of pollinating insects including native bees</li><li>• facilitate student research projects into honeybees and native pollinators</li><li>• provide a point of contact for local people concerned about honey bee swarms</li><li>• act as a point of information and contact for beekeepers and the public about possible incursions by Asian Hornets as and when necessary</li></ul>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	The trustees are aware of the Charity Commissions guidance on “public benefit” and have given due regard to it in their management of the association

<b>Additional information (optional)</b>	
Contribution made by volunteers	<p>The association is run and maintained by volunteers. This includes all training and the management and maintenance of a large training apiary. In addition, volunteers cover the weekly opening of the Dower House visitors centre to the public. As an association we are entirely reliant on the good will and energy of our volunteers.</p> <p>Over the course of this year the association has identified ways to encourage volunteering. The novice training course now includes an element about how important volunteers are to the association and the benefits it delivers to individuals. The role of the volunteer coordinator has been changed and more effective data base of volunteers developed.</p>

<b>Achievements and Performance:</b>	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• maintain and improve bee health within the association and the teaching apiary. The number of colonies experiencing infections has significantly reduced during 2024 as reported by the Apiary Manager. Research is still ongoing and the evidence for Hygienic Behaviour is, as yet, unproven</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• additional honeybee taster sessions (4) were successfully delivered. Free sessions were offered to officers from Heaton Park. The sessions were accessed by the public and prospective beekeepers. Both groups gave positive feedback</li> <li>• with support from the park, public information sessions were offered, linked to other park events. It was not possible to deliver individual playschemes</li> <li>• a review of training is now a regular item for trustees, novice review feedback indicates a high level of satisfaction with the training offered</li> <li>• a WhatsApp forum will be in place for novices in 2025</li> <li>• training relating to the capturing of swarms was delivered by an experienced 'swarm catcher,' this situation will be reviewed annually</li> <li>• response to Asian Hornet incursions is on the advice of the National Bee Unit a list of possible beekeepers available to support local issues will be kept and maintained by the association</li> <li>• the association continue information sharing with teachers, schools, park staff, social groups, and the public about caring for native bees and the needs of native pollinators</li> <li>• There were 13 candidates for basic BBKA examination in beekeeping and 12 passes. The Trustees agreed to pay for the exam for candidates who attained a credit or distinction in the examination, there were 8 candidates eligible for this payment in 2024</li> <li>• an environmental landscaping company has been commissioned to formalise plans for the native pollinator habitat and provisional permission has been given for the development by park officers</li> <li>• a new stock management system has been purchased and a review of how the association manages stock control and sales is currently underway. To facilitate stock management a new container was purchased so that we can buy and store a more realistic amount of stock for equipment sales</li> <li>• The association was approached by a local business (Amazon Prime Warehouse) with a view to their sponsoring a honeybee colony. This was agreed and from the 2025 bee season two hives will be sponsored. The plan included purchase of honey, taster sessions for managers and workers, three sessions were delivered during 2024</li> <li>• in 2024 Trustees agreed to the purchase of mated Carniolan queens with an aim of increasing the genetic viability of the apiary stock. This introduction will be reviewed and the health of colonies led by an introduced queen carefully monitored. The process may be repeated in 2025 to consolidate the breeding stock</li> <li>• this year a link has been made with a local community group that runs a food bank, the association donated 40 small jars of honey for their use. The association is committed to making locally produced 'real' honey to as many people as possible particularly in the current climate when so much honey sold in shops is adulterated in some way</li> </ul>
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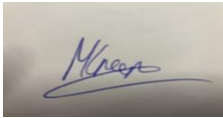
Additional information (optional)	
	<p><b>Future plans:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• research into bee health will be ongoing.</li> <li>• undertake the work necessary to develop the pollinator area, this work is likely to take place during the winter months where possible and may last for over 18 months</li> <li>• the trustees will continue to monitor the number of novices undertaking the Basic Beekeeping examination and continue making payments where a certain standard has been met</li> <li>• continue our existing planned training for experienced and novice beekeepers.</li> <li>• add additional short (half day) training sessions to the number planned</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• to achieve the above additional trainers will be sought and if necessary, offered mentoring/additional training.</li><li>• plan regular short talks for members linked to social events, these to include swarm management and identifies bee health issues</li><li>• continue hosting a honey event and meet the beekeepers in early autumn</li><li>• continue to review the effectiveness of the novice WhatsApp group</li><li>• introduce new stock control methods to ensure association members can access equipment when they need it at the lowest cost</li><li>• review financial reporting to include income, cost analysis on individual areas of the charities work including the training apiary, equipment sales, honey production and training delivery</li></ul>
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Signed: Date \*\*\*\* 17 February 2025



C A MacLeod. Chair of Trustees



M Green. Treasurer

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CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name  
**Manchester & District Beekeepers' Association**

No (if any)  
**1159052**

**CC16a**

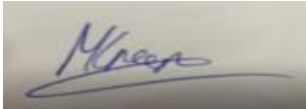

## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01-Jan-24	To	Period end date 31-Dec-24
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### 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 £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Subscriptions including BDI	11,462	-	-	11,462	11,238
Donations	1,191	-	-	1,191	1,162
Equipment sales	33,707	-	-	33,707	15,323
Gift shop sales	5,482	-	-	5,482	10,579
Honey sales	14,433	-	-	14,433	6,946
Teaching courses	7,135	-	-	7,135	7,768
Advertising	56	-	-	56	30
Hive sponsorship	800	-	-	800	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>74,266</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>74,266</b>	<b>53,046</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>74,266</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>74,266</b>	<b>53,046</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Equipment costs	31,490	-	-	31,490	14,705
Gift shop costs	7,082	-	-	7,082	803
Newsletter, Post, Stationery	759	-	-	759	981
Bee disease insurance premium	1,016	-	-	1,016	859
Donations and gifts	47	-	-	47	311
Education	2,682	-	-	2,682	1,211
BBKA Capitation fees	5,826	-	-	5,826	5,462
Garden	-	-	-	-	59
Social Events / raffles	363	-	-	363	334
Teaching courses	2,801	-	-	2,801	2,288
Paypal, Sumup and STRIPE fees	814	-	-	814	552
Travel expenses	1,323	-	-	1,323	845
Equipment and other costs for Dower House	2,912	-	-	2,912	2,674
Equipment and other costs for Apiary	11,807	-	-	11,807	6,883
Equipment and consumables for extraction room	2,480	-	-	2,480	7,918
Charity administration costs	156	-	-	156	-
Dower House Insurance	1,101	-	-	1,101	1,006
Examination of accounts	250	-	-	250	250
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>72,909</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>72,909</b>	<b>47,141</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>72,909</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>72,909</b>	<b>47,141</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>1,357</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,357</b>	<b>5,905</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>59,535</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>59,535</b>	<b>53,630</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>60,892</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>60,892</b>	<b>59,535</b>

## 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 £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Credit with Sumup	998	-	-
	Credit with Paypal	456	-	-
	Bank	57,232	-	-
	Petty cash	2,206	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>60,892</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
<b>Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees</b>	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Michael Green	17/02/2025	
		Christine A MacLeod	17/02/2025	



**CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

## Independent examiner's report on the accounts

### Section A

### Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Manchester & District Beekeepers' Association

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

31 December 2024

**Charity no  
(if any)**

1159052

**Set out on pages**

Form CC16a pages 1 and 2

*(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)*

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/12/2024**.

**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 (other than that disclosed below \*) 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:** Naomi Povey

**Date:** 17/02/2025

**Name:** Naomi Povey

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

CPFA

**Address:**

5 Newland Way

Nantwich

Cheshire CW5 7JH

**Section B****Disclosure**

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.**

No matters to report